

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

Adair Lara: A Look at the Columnist In Her Lair

By Jane Underwood

Adair Lara answers the door to her Church Street flat wearing jeans, sneakers, and a basic black sweater. With her short blond hair and trim figure, she has a youthful, tomboyish look that belies her reputation as a noted newspaper columnist for the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and her history as a top-notch magazine editor. (She worked her way up from copy editor to managing editor of KQED's *San Francisco Focus* from 1985 to 1988, and served as executive editor on the charter staff of *SF* magazine for eight months.)

Her blond hair, by the way, has provided the *raison d'être* for a couple of columns. "The heck with the natural look," she scoffed, in a column titled "Blond Dyes by Her Own Hand."

"After all, you can't take credit for what you're born with, only for what you do yourself. Where would Marilyn Monroe be if she'd clung to the hair color God gave her? We'd have a movie called 'Gentlemen Prefer Mousy Brown Hair.'"

Read Lara, and you'll be privy to the nitty-grittiest details of her daily life and loves—from sagas about lost turtles and ex-boyfriends, to reflections, always told as personal stories, on the art of surviving as a city renter (she is) to the joys of cooking (she doesn't, but she makes a mean cup of instant coffee).

Interviewing Lara is easy, because she's just as friendly, funny, and direct in person as she is in her Tuesday/Thursday *Chronicle* column, which she's been writing for two years.

She covers "the personal beat," Lara



Adair Lara's humorous columns in the *San Francisco Chronicle* often reflect her domestic life—which these days includes a furry creature named Mike. PHOTO BY PAMELA GERARD

explains. "For my column, you need to be frank." Another word that comes to mind is gutsy, or how about just plain honest?

"I've always been confused about things that can't be said and can be said," she laughs. "You know, you're not supposed to talk about how much you pay in rent. And I've never understood why."

She uses real names for real people whenever possible (her ex-husband Jim—"We had a good divorce"—sounds like a

real sweetheart). And she'll resort to bribery when necessary. "I pay my kids [Morgan, 12, and Patrick, 11] \$20 whenever I put them in a column." But, she adds, "I don't talk about anything *truly* personal. I have a sense of my own privacy and the privacy of the people around me.

"There's this quote that struck me once: 'That which is most personal is

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'Gary the Panhandler' In Police Custody

By Steve Steinberg

Noe Valley's most visible panhandler, "Gary," will probably not be seen on 24th Street for a while.

Gary, whose last name is Kappes, was arrested in July for probation violation. Depending on the outcome of a hearing held in late August, Kappes may either go to state prison or be forced to enter a residential drug rehabilitation program.

Last April Kappes was convicted of felony possession of a controlled substance (heroin). At that time he was not imprisoned, but placed on three years' probation.

But this summer, community outrage over his continuing drug-related activities in the neighborhood—as well as several minor arrests for aggressive panhandling and possession of syringes and other drug paraphernalia—resulted in the San Francisco District Attorney's Office filing a motion in Superior Court to lift Kappes' probation.

Twenty-one Noe Valley merchants and residents appeared at a July 19 probation hearing to testify against Kappes and call for his removal from the streets.

Kappes was apparently in the courtroom prior to the hearing, but fled before the proceedings got under way. The judge in the case then issued a bench warrant for his arrest.

Kappes was apprehended by police a few days later, and was being held without bail pending a further hearing, scheduled for Aug. 23.

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Hispanic Community Finds Niche In Noe Valley

By Denise Minor

When Jorge Herrera moved to an apartment at Church and 27th streets in 1983, the landlord asked him why he didn't live in the Mission District instead.

"It seems to me that his question was an insult," said Herrera in a recent interview, "as if Latinos didn't really fit in Noe Valley."

But that was almost a decade ago, and changes in demographics, business opportunities, and attitudes are making this neighborhood a much more attractive place to live and work for people from Spanish-speaking cultures.

Even though Noe Valley falls under the jurisdiction of the Mission District Police Station, there has always seemed to be an imaginary border at Dolores



Jorge Herrera, at home here in his Church Street apartment with grandson Christian, has helped the Noe Valley Community Store evolve into a center for Latin American activities in recent years. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

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Missing 'Sunny' Jerry Bernstein

Editor:

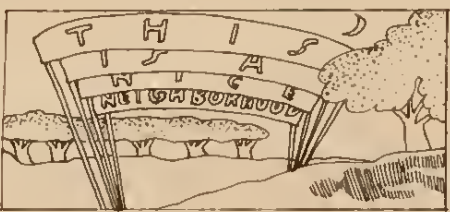
I wanted to add my name to the list of people who were sad to learn about Jerry Bernstein's death.

Being homeless, I see almost everything that happens on 24th Street, and I saw Jerry Bernstein a lot. We used to call him Sunny Jerry B or Smiling Sunny J. He was totally generous, not only with his spare change, but with his advice (which usually wasn't too gratuitous, thankfully).

Jerry was the most completely upbeat person I ever saw. When he laid his hard work advice on us, I used to say, "That's easy for you to say, Jerry." And he used to argue and say how easy we had it, since we didn't have the business or family responsibilities he had.

Well, I'll miss him. He was all right to the core.

Name withheld by request



'Mean Streets' an Apt Analogy

Editor:

I read with disbelief the June article by Steve Steinberg ["Neighbors Dispute 'Mean Streets' Label"], in which Upper Noe residents called for a re-definition of upper Noe Valley as something less than "mean streets." What could the benefit be behind clouding the truth? Pretending that there is no problem does not make it go away. One need only consult the *Voice* to gain an accurate picture of the very real and frightening change Noe Valley is undergoing—that of becoming a dangerous place to live.

I take strong exception to the portrayal of St. Paul's corner market as a friendly, neighborhood establishment. One cannot walk by the constant group of men in front of the store without receiving rude leers and comments.

To say that Day Street park is safe and that the adolescents surrounding it are "just kids being kids" is a joke—and a bad one. The park is not safe, and the drug trade thrives there. Groups of bored men drinking and harassing passersby do not make for a friendly park.

I suggest that a *Voice* reporter spend some time in these areas, where in the last year I have experienced the very real danger. At 28 years of age, I can only imagine how it feels to the elderly.

Rather than pretend there is no threat, the sensible thing to do is direct our energies as a group to eradicate the threat. Boycott those establishments that choose to sell alcohol to minors and pornography, or allow loitering and drug-dealing. Call the police to report all those who violate your rights, including those who seek to entertain us with loud music. Attend local meetings and get organized.

Criminals and creeps do not stay where it becomes too bothersome to practice their trade. Make it bothersome!

Molly Maloney
29th Street

Crime Is Pushing Residents Out

Editor:

When we moved here from Atlanta two years ago, we had only good feelings about San Francisco—and especially Noe Valley. We researched every neighborhood in the city before deciding on a flat on Chattanooga Street. It was sunny, people strolled their babies on 24th Street, and crime was low.

Then we moved to Church Street. Not

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long ago, our car trunk was broken into. We didn't have anything of value in it, only a Lego set we had bought for a friend's child. Nonetheless, whoever broke into the car considered the toy valuable enough to steal. We were pissed off.

Tonight, though, we're enraged.

Shortly after returning from the video store, my husband took our dog out for a walk on Church Street. It was 11 p.m. He had only gone one block when two teenage kids assaulted him. While their buddies waited in an old station wagon on 27th Street, one kid bashed my husband in the head. The other was preparing to, but my husband fled. The kids in the car laughed.

We notified the police, who responded to our call within five minutes. But we're still edgy. As a huge red welt begins to form on my husband's forehead, we discuss moving from the city. We're planning on having children soon, and we don't want to feel like we have to carry a gun just to go out at night.

We tell ourselves that this assault probably is unusual for the neighborhood. "It's a full moon," we say. But suddenly we think of my friend who lives on the next block. While driving home from a class we were taking together, I told her how safe I feel in Noe Valley. She said that she, too, felt that way up until three months ago when she was assaulted by a man as she got off the J-Church at 20th. She was hit in the head with a brick. The injury required more than 20 stitches.

A welt will heal. Even 20 stitches will heal. But why take chances?

Jill Aldrich
Church Street



Neighborhood Watch Foils Robbery on 22nd Street

Editor:

The residents of the 3700 block of 22nd Street, between Sanchez and Noe, held an organizational neighborhood watch meeting on the second Tuesday in August. And it certainly was timely.

Less than a week later, on Saturday, Aug. 10, at about 5 p.m., Henry Karnilowicz, who lives in the middle of the block, was in his driveway changing the brakes on his van.

My wife and I were just leaving the house for the evening when we noticed a rather tough-looking guy sauntering down the opposite side of the street. We kept an eye on him as we pulled slowly out of the driveway. He crossed to our side of the street and kept walking in the direction of Henry's van.

The next thing we hear is Henry yelling for help. The neighborhood reacted immediately. Andy Gomez and others spilled out of their homes and ran towards Henry. We heard two shots fired, and the man took off at a run toward Sanchez.

Here's what happened. As Henry tells it, "The guy is suddenly standing next to me with a pistol in his hand pointed toward the ground and the hammer cocked.

"I have a gun," he says.

"At this point," recalled Henry, "I didn't think. I just leaped at him, and began wrestling with him to get the gun away. That's when I yelled for help." About then the shots were fired, but nobody was hurt.

"It could have been bad," Henry continued, "since he was a lot bigger than I was, but when he saw everybody running toward him, he just took off."

Things happened fast. Within seconds after the shots were fired, Henry's neighbor, Rita Proano, called the police. A minute after that, two men on the block

gave chase in a van, and a minute after that, two squad cars pulled up.

They didn't get the perpetrator, but the police have his gun, a 22 cal. pistol. I have a call in to Officer Lois Perillo, who spoke at our SAFE meeting, so I may be able to round up some more details by our next get-together.

Henry wants to thank personally everyone who responded so quickly. Due to the quick response of his neighbors, a tragedy was avoided. And isn't that what a neighborhood watch is all about?

John Harrison
22nd Street



Fire Victims Send a Thank You

Editor:

My husband Chris and I wish to thank everyone for their generosity after our fire on Noe Street ["Neighborhood Helps Couple Pick up the Pieces After Noe St. Fire," June 1991 *Voice*].

We were able to quickly find another home, and none too soon, as our son, Kyle, arrived a month ahead of schedule. Your gifts enabled us to replace the many things needed for him that were lost.

Thank you, one and all!

Chris, Deborah, and Kyle Stuart
Taraval Street

Seniors Grateful for Support

Editor:

We, the seniors at the Noe Valley Senior Center, would like to thank all of you who signed our petition and wrote letters to the mayor to help keep our senior lunch program going. It helped our cause tremendously, and the center is open and in full swing again, thanks to your efforts.

We need new members to help keep this lunch program open and alive, for future seniors of Noe Valley.

Anyone who is 60 years or older is welcome to join. It is a good lunch program, starting at 12 noon Monday through Friday at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. The cost is \$1.25.

Once again, thanks for your compassion. You will remain in our hearts "always and forever."

All the members of the
Noe Valley Senior Center



Savoring Seniors' Victory

Editor:

Never have I seen a community coalesce so quickly and react so positively to the needs of a special group of residents—its seniors—than when the Noe Valley Senior Center's noon lunch program was threatened by the withdrawal of city funds this last spring.

Every person, every group, every organization to which we appealed sprang to our defense with letters, signatures on petitions, and phone calls, so that ultimately the program was saved, though not without some sacrifices on the part of staff, the Noe Valley Ministry, and administration.

Yet when I see the happy and contented faces at the Ministry each noon—secure for at least another year from having to be shunted to another neighborhood for good food, good companionship, and



THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

1021 Sanchez Street
San Francisco, CA 94114

The *Noe Valley Voice* is an independent newspaper published monthly except in January and August. It is distributed free in Noe Valley and vicinity. Mail subscriptions are available at a cost of \$15 per year (\$9 per year for seniors) by writing to the above address. The *Voice* welcomes your letters, photos, artwork, and manuscripts. However, all such items must include your name, address, and phone number, and may be edited for brevity or clarity. (Unsigned letters to the editor will not be considered for publication.) Unsolicited contributions will be returned only if accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Editorial: 821-3324

Subscriptions: Scott Paterson, 206-1910

Distribution: Misha Yagudin, 469-0419

Display Advertising Only:

Call Steve at 239-1114

Classified Ads: See Page 39

Advertising Deadline for the

October 1991 Issue: Sept. 20

Editorial Deadline: Sept. 15

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It Pains Us to Tell You: Subscriptions Are Going Up

Due to this year's hike in postage and the new state tax on newspapers, we at the *Noe Valley Voice* have reluctantly decided to raise our annual subscription rates.

Starting this month, the rate for 10 issues of the *Voice* delivered to your mailbox will go from (please don't hit us) \$12 to \$15 a year, with the special rate for seniors (those over 65) going from \$6 to \$9 a year.

If you would like home delivery and can swallow the new charge, please send a check to the *Noe Valley Voice*, Attn: Subscriptions, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114.

But remember, the *Voice* is still absolutely free to pick-it-up-yourselfers—and a good excuse for you to walk to 24th Street, thereby reaping enormous benefits in physical fitness, political correctness, and self-esteem-ness.

It is available the first Tuesday of the month at most neighborhood stores, the Noe Valley Library, and in the foyer at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St.

Heft one home today—or for extra empowerment, take two. □

good advice—I am personally grateful to each and every person who helped save the seniors.

Without doubt, the warm and humane writing of Grace D'Anca, and the alacrity of the editors of the *Noe Valley Voice*, greatly contributed to notifying people about our plight and creating sympathy for it.

May the senior nutrition program at the Noe Valley Ministry be in place for everyone who becomes a senior in our community for a long time to come!

Marjorie Stern

Jersey Street resident

Member, Advisory Council,

San Francisco Commission on the Aging

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Fairmount Gets a Play Structure with No Stricture

By Kathy Dalle-Molle

Nine-year-old Amy Wood and her 30 classmates in Fairmount School's Special Day Classes, a program for mentally and physically challenged kids, used to have it rough on the school playground. Because the existing jungle-gym, located in the schoolyard at 65 Chenery St., was not designed with mobility-impaired youngsters in mind, it was generally off limits to Amy and her fellow students.

But when Amy, a fourth-grader, and her classmates begin this school year on Sept. 4, they'll be able to join other Fairmount students on the school's new, more accessible play structure. The equipment has ramps, platforms, and handrails for disabled children, and is the first of its kind in the San Francisco Unified School District.

After six months of planning and four months of building, the bright blue and red metal structure was completed in mid-April at a cost of \$43,000. Special Education Director Susan Kwock, school board member Tom Ammiano, and Fairmount teachers and students attended an inauguration and ribbon-cutting ceremony in late May.

During recess and lunch breaks, children can ride on four slides, jump and run on several platforms, play tic-tac-toe on a giant game board, or use steering wheels attached to the structure to pretend they're "bus drivers" or "cable car operators." The structure sits on a five-inch-thick foam-like surface, so students bounce gently on the ground if they fall.

"During the school year, it's great to see kids playing together and having fun with their non-disabled classmates," says Patti Wood, Amy's mom and one of the chief proponents of the new structure. "The play structure allows kids to mainstream. Other than the obvious student in a wheelchair, you're hard-pressed to point out which kids have disabilities."

The old wooden structure was badly deteriorated and a frequent target of weekend vandals, she recalled. On Mondays, children would come to the play



Fourth-grader Amy Wood tries the slide on the new accessible play structure installed at Fairmount School last spring. PHOTO BY TOM WACHS

yard and find broken beer bottles underneath the slide.

According to Wood, the PTA at one point considered tearing down the structure, but decided against it because "as bad as it was, at least it was a way for kids to interact with each other without adult supervision."

Wood became involved in the play structure project largely because of daughter Amy. She is also chair of the school district's Community Advisory Committee for Special Education, a 24-member group of parents, district staff, and community members who advise the school board on policies and priorities

relating to special education.

After discussions with Fairmount Principal Jack Moulthrop, Wood and special education teacher Jeff Greenberg wrote a grant proposal seeking \$40,000 from the Mayor's Office of Community Development to build the new apparatus. While waiting to hear from the mayor's office, however, they learned that the district had funds available from Propositions A and B for this type of project.

Passed by taxpayers several years ago, the two propositions provide schools with funding for building repair and site-accessibility projects, including elevators, ramps, and restroom facilities for dis-

abled students. (Wood and Greenberg have yet to hear from the mayor's office.)

Last fall, Wood, Moulthrop, school teachers, and the special education staff met monthly with an architect to design the new play structure.

Now, Wood says, "It's my mission in life" to make sure play structures like the one at Fairmount are created in schoolyards throughout the district. The Community Advisory Committee has already recommended that the school board create accessible structures whenever an old play structure must be replaced. She hopes the board will adopt the policy once the budget crisis is over.

Wood is also considering filing complaints with the federal government's Office of Civil Rights against schools and parks that have inaccessible play equipment.

Although most everyone is happy to have the new structure in place, Wood says some people initially questioned the district's allotting \$43,000 for new playground equipment, at a time when staff layoffs and program cuts loomed large.

"The taxpayers voted that their money be used this way," Wood responds. "Propositions A and B provide for building improvements and site accessibility, so we're not taking away from other things."

Because Principal Moulthrop expected that vandals might strike this summer, he asked neighbors whose homes overlook the schoolyard to keep an eye on the structure. He also asked local police to patrol the area more frequently.

Unfortunately, vandals still caused some minor damage over the summer. A handrail bar was broken, graffiti was spray-painted onto parts of the structure, and the foam matting was ripped in places.

Nonetheless, Wood feels they've been lucky. "It could have been dangerously damaged," she said.

Wood and her husband, Barry, are co-owners of the Wooden Heel shoe repair store at 4071 24th St. Their home, where they live with Amy and their two other children, ages 2 and 6, is just a block away, on 23rd Street.

When school isn't in session, Patti likes to accompany Amy to the play structure at least twice a week. She encourages other Noe Valley parents, especially those with disabled children, to do the same.

"The structure is always open," and Fairmount also has ramps enabling the children to go from one play yard to the next, she points out. "It's free to use, and my hope is that it'll be a place people can take their kids and have some fun." □

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Adair Lara

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most common.' Jung said that. And it seems absolutely true."

In one recent piece, we find 39-year-old Lara "sitting on a bench outside the San Francisco Coffee Company on 24th Street" with her real-life boyfriend (now fiancé) Bill, "drinking our lattes and reading the paper."

"I don't get it," she says to Bill (who is senior editor at Chronicle Books, and whom she met, by the way, in an elevator—but that's another column), "what does it mean that family planning clinics can't mention abortion to their clients? I

thought abortion was legal."

She then relates the story of a 17-year-old girl, Adair Daly, who "got herself knocked up" and was faced with having to choose between a teenage marriage or a back-alley abortion.

"The only thing you can really write honestly about is yourself," Lara maintains. "The only place you can really start to talk about abortion is to discuss your own and your own decisions. It just seems to me that I have the right to do that."

"The first year I was writing," she recalls, "I did two columns in which I wasn't involved. One was about restaurants, and one was about tasting caviar. They called me in and asked me not to do that kind of column. At first I was

annoyed and thought, I'm gonna run right through my personal inventory, and then where will I be? But now I'm grateful, because they're forcing me back, not only to what I can do, but to what I actually value doing."

Lara's values stem, at least in part, from her Irish working-class upbringing in rural Marin County. One of seven kids—five girls (Lara is a twin) and two boys—she's been around the block a few times, and she knows about life on the other side of the tracks. "We were poor," she says pithily.

In her columns, she tends to poke fun at her now-hybrid lifestyle, depicting it as a humorous blend of her blue-collar heart and professional, cosmopolitan

mentality. "My last job was with a new design magazine... very glossy," she once wrote. "We sent it free to our readers, who were local rich people. It was challenging work, and I enjoyed it. I hear we put out a pretty good magazine and look forward to the day when I can afford to read it."

Lara launched her premiere *Chronicle* column by announcing, "So now I have a job with a newspaper," and went on to admit how she, the "prodigal daughter," had hoped to impress her kith and kin with this latest career coup.

Her mother's response to the news, she informed us, was succinct. "Do I have to subscribe," she asked, "or can you just save that page for me?"

In "The Dad Who Ran Away from Home," Lara shared the story of her "crazy Irish alcoholic father," who abandoned the family when she was a child, and is now 70 years old and living in the Mojave Desert, "in an old broken-down truck by the freeway." They have a love/hate relationship.

"I just heard from him," she says, "but he's very hard to track down. He stopped drinking about 10 years ago, and just sort of got himself free. He used to be a carpenter, and he never filed for taxes, he doesn't have a driver's license, he's been tossed in and out of the brig—and he never dreamed for a minute that he was eligible for Social Security. But he went to this office and was just stunned. They were telling him that he had \$400 a month. And if you live in a truck in the desert, \$400 is plenty of money. So off he went. And now he writes, all day long." ("Make a wonderland of your own bog," the prodigal father once advised his prodigal daughter.)

Clearly the Daly genes are prone toward prose. "We had a word-struck theme in the family," Lara confirms. "My parents were both compulsive readers. So there were lots of books around," and Adair generally had her nose stuck in one of them. By the time she was 8, she knew she wanted to be a writer.

"Then when I grew up, I thought this horrible trick had been played on me. I'd been given the desire to write, but not the talent. There were certain kinds of writing I could do—I was an English major at San Francisco State, and I wrote a history book [*History of Petaluma, a California River Town* (1982)], but the kind of writing I really wanted to do, I would write three quarters of a page, and think, this is going nowhere, this is garbage. And I'd throw it away."

"It was a lifelong writer's block, and I didn't pull out of it until I was 34," when she and another stymied editor friend formed their own writing club. "The rule was that you had to write 500 words a day—it didn't have to be good, you could take it out of the telephone book—and that you turn it in to the other person."

"I gave her a thing about my father, which I wrote when I was mad at him. And she gave it back to me, and she said, 'You know, this is really good.' And because she said it was good, I thought it might be good. And I turned it into a piece for *Focus*."

Hundreds of magazine and newspaper articles later, Lara says she's finally found her "dream job" writing about her everyday experiences, which she imbues with humor and optimism. "My favorite columnists," she notes, "are the ones who have a lot of fun at the typewriter"—a work habit she, too, has cultivated.

"You have to enjoy yourself in the moment, because that's all there is. This is the kind of pompous thing I try to avoid saying in a column, but it does strike me more and more, that it's a good idea to just stop yourself in the middle of any day or hour and think, this is my life. It isn't next week or when I get the job or when we move to the country or have another house."

"Unless you catch yourself, you go through your whole life waiting for it to start." □

Editor's Note: A collection of Adair Lara's columns, Welcome to Earth, Mom, will be published by Chronicle Books next spring.

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Panhandler

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The tall, bearded and bedraggled street person had long been the scourge of many local shopkeepers. They accused him of scaring away customers and, more significantly, of "shooting up" drugs and leaving the used needles in public places.

"Gary has been preying on Noe Valley for its good intentions and not helping himself," said Margaret Daley, who works at Small Frys at 24th and Castro streets.

Many merchants felt that they had been duped by Kappes, who first appeared on Noe Valley's commercial strip about two years ago. They said they initially tried to help him with money, housing, job offers, and other favors—only to find that he was more interested in indulging his drug habit than getting back on his feet.

"Everyone had done a great deal to help him, and now we are just trying to get rid of him," said Mary McFadden, a resident who also works at Glad Rags on 24th Street. Both McFadden and Daley attended the July 19 hearing to speak out against Kappes.

McFadden and others claimed that the *Noe Valley Voice* was partly to blame for Kappes' continued presence in the area. In a series on homelessness in the April 1990 *Voice*, "Gary" was given space to speak out about his plight. Kappes talked about losing his job and apartment, and about the indignities of homelessness, but said nothing of his drug problem or scrapes with the law.

McFadden said she felt the article gave a distorted picture of Kappes' situation and only encouraged residents to give him money, thus indirectly contributing to his drug addiction.

Last spring, in an effort to discourage further handouts, some Noe Valley merchants went so far as to hang posters with a large "prohibited" symbol drawn over a photo of a person giving change to Kappes.

Noe Valley Community Police Officer Lois Perillo said she had arrested Kappes on several occasions this summer, after finding him in possession of drug paraphernalia. (The terms of Kappes' probation allowed him to be searched by police with or without reasonable cause.)

But she also said she had tried repeatedly to get Kappes the kind of help he needed. Perillo said she had arranged a placement interview for him in a day drug treatment program, but nothing had come of it. Kappes had also failed, according to Perillo and the district attorney's office, to enter a live-in drug rehabilitation program as required by the conditions of his probation. "He's an addict and in total denial," Perillo said.

In a June interview with the *Voice*, Kappes indeed denied that he had a drug problem. He also claimed that the police, particularly Officer Perillo, were harassing him by arresting him for "unreasonable and technical" offenses.

As for local merchants wanting him off the street, he said that that was "nonsense," although he admitted that "a few reactionary individuals have maintained a constant, bitter war against me." Other merchants, he said, "just echoed what Lois [Perillo] told them."

Revoking an individual's probation is not an easy task, according to the assistant district attorney (ADA) who filed for revocation in Kappes' case. The ADA, who wished not to be named, said that normally judges would not consider lifting probation unless a "substantive" new crime was committed. Arrests for pan-



Officer Lois Perillo has confronted panhandler Gary Kappes several times over the last two years. PHOTO BY TOM WACHS

handling or possession of drug paraphernalia are usually not sufficient grounds, the ADA said. However, he noted, public pressure against Kappes was so strong that the court felt bound to have Kappes taken into custody and to "presently revoke" his probation.

According to the ADA, a letter from a nearby resident, Sharon Sloane-Ghaly, to the office of San Francisco District Attorney Arlo Smith, was the catalyst that led the DA's office to push for revocation. Sloane-Ghaly, who lives on 25th Street near Valencia, wrote to Smith saying, "What does it take to get you to understand that Gary's actions are harmful?"

In a phone conversation following Kappes' arrest, Sloane-Ghaly said she was particularly incensed that Kappes had been injecting himself with drugs in Osage Alley, located between 24th and 25th streets and Valencia and Mission, and leaving his spent needles where children could come in contact with them.

Sloane-Ghaly also said that Kappes had ignored a "stay-away" order, issued by the courts to keep him at least eight blocks away from Osage Alley. "Kappes is not adding to the quality of life in the neighborhood," she said.

Kappes' fate within the judicial system is still not certain. According to the ADA, he could be sentenced to from 16 months to three years in state prison, with two years being the most likely term. The attorney noted that Kappes had never received an actual sentence after his conviction in April. The "imposition" of sentence was suspended due to his placement on probation.

An alternative scenario could be that Kappes would be sentenced to time in county jail or even put back on some form of modified probation. The ADA felt that if Kappes' probation officer recommended prison, another hearing would be held, at which time Kappes might be offered the opportunity to enter a residential drug rehab program as an alternative to jail. The ADA pointed out that although Kappes had rejected that type of treatment in the past, his choices had never been so stark.

In the meantime, many people on 24th Street breathed a sigh of relief that Gary was no longer hanging around. "It's wonderful not having that eyesore affect your psyche," said Daley.

Patti Wood, owner of the Wooden Heel shoe repair shop, pointed out that other addicts and "sleazy" people had gotten the message following Kappes' arrest and were less in evidence on 24th Street. Said Wood with satisfaction, "We took back our street." □

Flare-up Between Black and Latino Youths near James Lick

By Kathy Dalle-Molle

Several weeks of racial tension among students attending James Lick Middle School's summer session culminated in a confrontation between black and Latino students on July 23, at the corner of Noe and 27th streets, just three blocks from the school.

Five juveniles and one adult were cited on misdemeanor charges, while one adult was booked on a felony charge, which was later dropped for lack of evidence. The misdemeanor charges are still pending.

"I'd been notified almost daily by the assistant vice principal at James Lick of imminent trouble," said San Francisco Police Officer Alexis Goldner, who made the arrests and is assigned to patrol the 25 schools in the Mission District. "This whole summer session there'd been unrest between blacks and Latinos."

Goldner added that racial friction had been more severe this summer than during the school year because middle school students from throughout the school district were attending the short-term session together.

"There were so many students from outside of the area," Goldner said. "They didn't know each other, and summer school is for only six weeks, so there isn't as much time to identify the problem children." Goldner also noted that similar tension had been occurring during Mission High School's summer session.

Last month, the *Voice* was unable to reach an administrator at James Lick because the school was closed for summer vacation, but contacted Police Inspector Bill Maring, who investigated the July 23 incident.

According to Maring, what specifically triggered the clash remains fuzzy. "One witness said it was about something incredibly minor—two kids bumping into each other on the playground," Maring said. "It's often hard to find a reason for these situations. Sometimes it's unclear even to the participants."

"Most of them can't even tell you why they hate each other," added Goldner.

Shortly before 12:30 p.m., 30 black students finished class for the day and boarded the 24-Divisadero Muni bus at the corner of Noe and 26th streets. A few minutes later, at the bus stop at Noe and 27th, about 15 Latino students walked in front of the bus, blocking its path.

One member of the Latino group threw a metal object, possibly a car part, at the bus, breaking two side windows. Angered, the black students pressured the bus driver to open the door, and then jumped from the bus to start fighting with the Latinos.

A white female passenger in her 20s was cut on the head by the shattered glass, but ran from the scene before she could be identified. No other injuries were reported.

"I don't think she was seriously injured," said Maring. "I think she just wanted to get out of the area."

Goldner and Officer Pam Hofsass, patrolling a half a block from the confrontation, responded within minutes. But the students started to flee as soon as they spotted Goldner and Hofsass.

At the height of the incident, seven patrol cars were on the scene. A 19-year-old man was booked on a felony count of throwing an object at a Muni bus, but the

charge was dropped later, after the police failed to locate the metal object, identify the victim, or find sufficient witnesses.

Two James Lick summer students uninvolved in the confrontation were beaten up by two black students as they waited on the bus. One, a Filipino, suffered no injuries, while the other, a Latino, sustained minor cuts and bruises on his forehead, neck, and ear. Both students' parents declined to press charges, but one of the assailants was expelled from James Lick's summer session for the incident. The other assailant was not a student at James Lick.

The remaining juveniles and a 21-year-old adult were cited for loitering near school grounds. None are James Lick students.

One Latino youth cited for loitering was identified as a member of the so-called 31st Street Gang, but the confrontation was not thought to be gang-related, according to Maring.

"No gang affiliation was being yelled by anyone," he said. He noted, however, that gang members are becoming increasingly difficult to identify.

"Lots of them don't wear hats and jackets anymore because it's too easy to spot them," he explained. "They're now trying more subtle things."

Less than an hour after the confrontation at Noe and 27th, another fight between black and Latino students broke out at 30th and Mission streets. Black students were riding another bus on the 24-line when two groups of Latino students in cars began taunting them as they drove by. The Latinos and blacks jumped to the street and began fighting.

Goldner said she believed this conflict was related to the earlier incident because she recognized many of the same participants. She detained two black students, but no one was cited.

Although Goldner said it was unusual for this type of racial tension to lead to fighting, she noted that the situation "had been brewing as part of the ongoing friction between the two groups."

"When you're the underdog, you want to find someone lower than you to pick on," she said. "I know it sounds simple, but that's how I see it."

Maring added that incidents like this occur more often at high schools than middle schools "because the kids are older and a lot have cars so they can go from one school to another."

The confrontation on July 23 was the fourth racial incident involving James Lick students during 1991. During the school year, a fight and subsequent retaliation broke out between Latinos and blacks. The other fight involved Asian and black students.

James Lick's summer session ended on July 26 with no further incidents. The fall semester begins on Sept. 4. □

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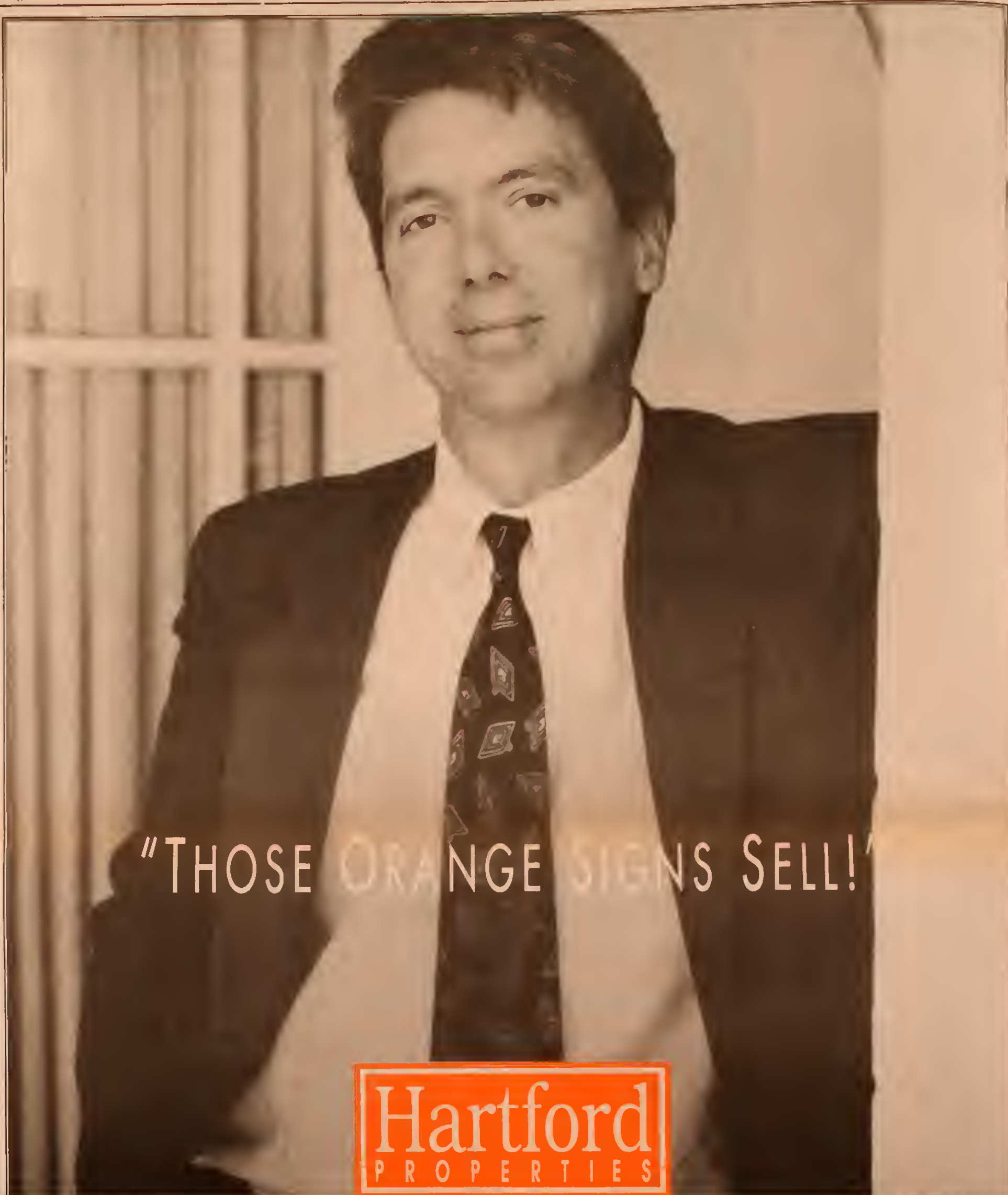
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Stalking the Stage with Shakespearean Actor/Director Lopez-Morillas

By Jeff Kaliss

At age 44, Julian Lopez-Morillas still feels a little young to portray King Lear.

"The Lear that I'm doing now is the Lear that a younger man can do," he said, taking a rare break at the Courtyard Cafe from his summer's responsibilities with the California Shakespeare Festival (formerly the Berkeley Shakespeare Festival). "Even so, it's very taxing on my stamina. It takes everything I can pour into it."

Besides playing the aging, betrayed title character from Shakespeare's tragedy, Lopez-Morillas appears this month as Theseus in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and directs *All's Well That Ends Well*, running in repertory with *Lear* at the festival's brand new theater in Orinda. He directed *All's Well* once before, a decade ago with the London Drama Studio of Berkeley.

"It deals with very thorny issues of gender," he notes. "It's the Shakespeare problem of the remarkable young woman (Helena) and the shiftless or headstrong or stupid young man (Bertram). What I want to imply at the end of this show is that... there is a shred of hope for understanding between these people, but only at the price of hard work on both sides, which is a very '90s kind of idea."

He himself portrayed the imperious King of France in a 1982 Berkeley Shakespeare production of *All's Well*, which featured the pre-Hollywood Annette Bening as the spunky Helena. ("Did you see the news last night?" he asks with uncharacteristic abandon. "Annette is carrying Warren Beatty's love child. I cannot believe it!")

His own charming version of the play, for which a few tickets are still available (phone 525-8844), is set in Napoleonic France, "mostly because I was looking for a period where the gender roles are very strongly expressed through costuming, and in which military glory is a palpable and desirable thing. I had a very strong tug on my mind to get Desert Storm into this, and I resisted it ultimately, because it's not a play about war. My feeling is that the audience can read that into it."

In fact, Lopez-Morillas is skeptical of the current "trend in American Shakespeare," which emphasizes updated period settings and costuming over text. It represents the "greatest danger," he says, at the well-known Ashland, Ore., Shakespeare festival, where he has worked as a director.

In addition to acting and directing at the California Shakespeare Festival, Lopez-Morillas is heading up the festival's apprenticeship program. It's a tough schedule and a long commute from his Fair Oaks Street home (where he moved several years ago, to be among the "sixties survivors and aging hippies" of Noe Valley). But it's also a long-standing passion with the tall, slender thespian, who as a child accompanied his parents to Shakespeare productions at Brown University in Rhode Island. His father, a Spanish professor of literature, and his mother, a Spanish language translator, also took their son through the ancient ruins of Europe.

The young Lopez-Morillas studied Latin and Greek and began Swarthmore College set on studying archaeology, but soon became entranced by theater. During Christmas vacation of his sophomore year, he talked one of the directors of the Colorado Shakespeare Festival into auditioning him in a New York hotel room. He thus became the youngest member of the company in the summer of 1966.



Julian Lopez-Morillas has been graced beyond his years for his portrayal of King Lear in the California Shakespeare Festival this summer. This wall of his Fair Oaks Street apartment is covered with pictures celebrating some of his other roles, and the plays which he has directed. PHOTO BY TOM WACHS

"I've now done Shakespeare every summer since, except for three years," Lopez-Morillas says.

He also attempted to pursue academic training as an actor at Yale's School of Drama, but was considered "over-intellectualized" and "a discipline problem." Although he later secured a master's degree in directing at Carnegie in Pittsburgh, he came to realize that "my own acting style was better suited to the West Coast."

Working at Ashland and in the Bay Area, Lopez-Morillas discovered that "West Coast actors tend to do more classics... There are more Shakespeare festivals out here, and they're not so much brought up on that diet of [playwrights David] Mamet and [Sam] Shepard."

Lopez-Morillas got hired in 1972 by the San Francisco company of the long-running *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. "For two years plus, I worked as an usher, box office manager, and wardrobe master, and understudied seven different roles and went on stage in six of them," he recalls. "Then I got cast in *P.S.: Your Cat Is Dead*... and knocked around North Beach."

These were the summers without Shakespeare, and he found himself missing the bard. "My first year at the Colorado, an older actor had said, 'Do all the Shakespeare you can. Once you've mastered Shakespeare, you can play anything.'"

Lopez-Morillas remembers. "I don't think there's ever been a marriage of language, dramatic technique, and character insight as there is in Shakespeare."

In 1977, he attempted to join the Berkeley Shakespeare Festival, then in its infancy at John Hinkel Park in the East Bay hills. "At that time," he recalls, "the company was run completely as a democracy. They'd meet and vote on the plays and the directors. The way to get in as a director was to make friends, so that same season I auditioned and got the role of Angelo in *Measure for Measure*."

The Berkeley company "had a tremendous vitality and a good audience and a tremendous performance space," he points out, "but they operated under tremendous strictures. They didn't have security, so they had to put up the lights and the sets for every performance, and take them down." They also had to adjust their schedule to the will of surrounding neighbors.

But Lopez-Morillas, who at that time also worked briefly at Ashland, found Berkeley to be the ideal venue for his multiple theatrical talents.

Since throwing in his lot with the Berkeley festival, he has earned critical praise for his direction, including his illumination of such obscure works as *Pericles*, *King John*, and *Timon of Athens*. "The advantage with those is that people don't know the scripts as well and don't bring

a whole set of preconceptions," he says.

His favorite acting roles, most of them heavies, have included MacBeth, Brutus, and Malvolio. But, he notes, "There's some part of me which still refuses to believe that I'm an actor, and takes refuge in thinking of myself as a director who sometimes acts." Despite consistent accolades from the press, he refuses to "place myself in the top echelon of actors," but acknowledges that "I think I have compensating factors: intelligence, deep knowledge of Shakespeare's language and times, strong physical presence, and by now a well-developed voice for outdoors."

In his off months from the festival (whose season keeps him busy from May through October), he has worked locally at the Eureka, the Magic, and the Berkeley Jewish Theatre, as well as elsewhere across the country.

"In the normal course of events, it would be time for me to move on," he says of his 15-year allegiance to the Berkeley company. "On the other hand, [current artistic director] Michael Addison has been very good to me, and we have a wonderful working relationship."

Besides, "I have no appetite for going to Los Angeles and sort of hitting the streets," he says. "I've also noticed that [in the case of] the very good stage actors I know, Los Angeles often doesn't know what to do with them. They get cast as dopers and weirdos a lot. L.A. essentially likes bland or conventional-looking people, and I don't believe I am one."

Some day Lopez-Morillas would like to head up his own troupe. In the meantime, he's happy to have matured into a youngish Lear. "Of the Lears I've seen, it's the Paul Scofield that hits a chord with me," he says. "It's the closest to my own conception: hard as nails, very undemonstrative of emotion, bullying, pig-headed."

With gray added to his naturally dark hair and beard, Lopez-Morillas works his body language on stage to add decades to his age. "When the breakdown comes, it comes slowly and grudgingly," he says of his character. "It really is about a man sort of coming to terms with inevitable weakness, and failing." The final vision of Lear, struggling to carry the dead body of his youngest daughter, Cordelia, is gut-wrenching.

Lopez-Morillas is reasonably confident that both he and Shakespeare will make it into the 21st century, when he'll achieve his true Lear age. "I'll be wiser, I think, and a better actor, and have a lot more perspective on the role," he predicts. "But I won't be able to do some of the things I'm doing now—and I may have to work to smaller and smaller Cordelias all the time." □

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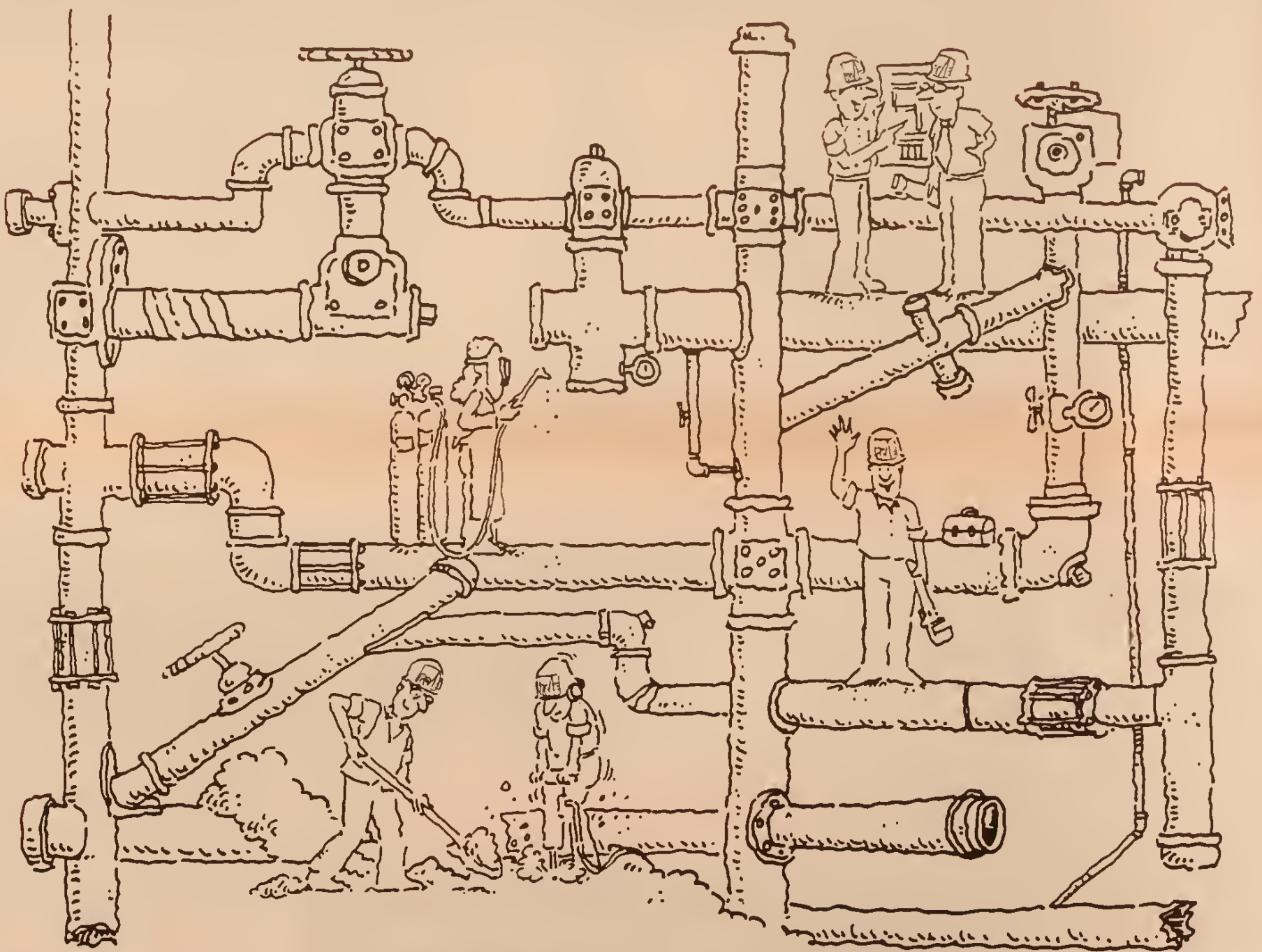
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Goodbye Buena Vista, Hello Kate Kennedy (Children's Center)

By Kathy Dalle-Molle

While the game of musical chairs seems most suited to kids, the adults running the San Francisco Unified School District are proving themselves very adept at the sport—at least when it comes to locating a site for the Kate Kennedy Children's Center, Noe Valley's 48-year-old public childcare center.

Founded in 1943, the children's center originally made its home at Edison Elementary School, at 3531 22nd St. Nine years later, it moved to the Kate Kennedy School building at 1670 Noe St. (near 30th Street), where it remained for the next 35 years.

In 1987, however, when Buena Vista School, the city's Spanish-immersion program, took over the Kate Kennedy site, the children's center was shifted back to Edison.

Now this fall, as reported in the May issue of the *Voice*, Buena Vista is returning to the Mission District, to the site it shared with Mission Education Center from 1983 to 1986 (2641 25th St.). And the Kate Kennedy Children's Center will be reinstated in its old classrooms at 1670 Noe.

According to Margaret Wells, a supervisor in the school district's elementary school division, the Kate Kennedy and Buena Vista moves were triggered by the district's consolidation of three education centers in order to cut costs. The Mission, Chinese, and Filipino education centers, which provide elementary programs for immigrant children, will now share facilities and principals with three other elementary schools, instead of oc-

cupying their own buildings.

In the current shuffle, the Mission Education Center was relocated to Edison, freeing up Buena Vista's more spacious former school site on 25th Street.

The move to bigger facilities comes at a good time for both Buena Vista School and the Kate Kennedy Children's Center, which were outgrowing their previous quarters.

As he was scrambling around the three-story Kate Kennedy building, supervising movers and construction workers remodeling the first-floor bathrooms, Kate Kennedy's new site manager, Gilbert Archuleta, a 10-year veteran of the district and a Noe Valley resident, seemed busy last month, but he said he was pleased to begin his new position in the Noe Street facility, especially since it's located near his Laidley Street home.

"This is a nice, quiet neighborhood, which I like very much," Archuleta said. "I'm glad to live and work here."

"I hope we're here for some time to come," added Loretta Juhas, a 35-year veteran of the children's program, who helped coordinate the move back to Kate Kennedy. "There are a lot of memories in the place. I think about the kids, the picnics, the fiestas—all the nice things that happened here."

Teachers and students feel the same way, according to Archuleta. "The kids

have expressed delight in returning here," he said, "and the staff is happy to have their own home, since we were sharing with an elementary school before."

Teacher Mark Phillips, who's been with the center since 1988, agreed that it was a boost "to have a facility to ourselves." And colleague Sandra Belvin-Hollis, who's been teaching at the center since 1989, pointed out that "the kids have more space to play and more freedom to move around."

Now that the childcare center is in a larger facility, preschoolers—kids age 2 to 4—will once again be able to attend classes at Kate Kennedy (the little ones will occupy the first floor of the building). Because the center had use of only four rooms at Edison, its preschoolers had been transferred to other centers during the past four years.

By Sept. 5, Archuleta hopes to have 45 preschoolers enrolled alongside the 28 kindergartners and 84 first- through fifth-graders already in the program.

This school year, he also hopes to involve local residents in the center's activities.

"I want to be able to reach out to the Noe Valley area and to the larger city," he said. "I'm interested in tapping into parent support. I'd like to see how parents could use their talents and skills to become more involved in the center."

Archuleta suggested that the building's now-vacant third floor could be used for more school-age classes or special programs for the children.

Prior to arriving at Kate Kennedy on July 1, Archuleta served as assistant principal at two San Francisco high schools and middle schools. Last year, he was assistant vice principal at Commodore Stockton Elementary School. But his new job represents a big change, he said.

"The program is significantly different from elementary school," he explained. "The kids are very active and are always doing a variety of things at the same time, but I feel welcome here, and I'm ready for the newness and the difference."

Funded through federal and state subsidies as well as fees from parents, the city's childcare centers were established during World War II to provide a safe place for working mothers to leave their children during the day. Today, the centers primarily enroll children of parents who are working full-time or training for work.

Four thousand preschool and school-age children attend the 34 children's centers located throughout the city. Two thousand students are currently on a waiting list, and priority enrollment is given to children from low-income families. The centers are open weekdays from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., with most school-age kids attending in the early morning or late afternoon.

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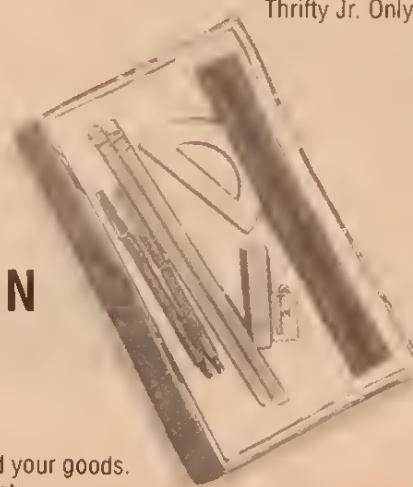
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La Casona is serving up fast Mexican food in the long-vacant storefront formerly occupied by the Acme Cafe (and by Mom's and Noe Valley Pasta more recently).

By Karol Barske

MORE FOOD TO SCARF DOWN: A new taqueria made its debut on 24th Street last month, and there are expanded opportunities for carbo-loading at the Meat Market Coffeehouse. But residents can also take advantage of two new ways to work off unwelcome poundage: enroll in the Boldizar Karate School, or make an appointment to have your portrait done at Rich's Photo.

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Grab your serape and "vamoose" to Noe Valley's new Mexican restaurant, La Casona, on 24th Street near Sanchez.

Situated in the spot occupied by the legendary Acme Cafe in the 1970s and '80s, La Casona is the brainchild of Ed Tott, a Noe Valley resident for 13 years and the former co-owner of Azteca Taqueria on Church near Market Street.

Since its opening Aug. 8, the taqueria has done a brisk business in tacos (\$1.25-\$3.30), burritos (\$1.99-\$4.99), and quesadillas (\$1.50-\$2.99), ranging from steak to vegetarian. It also habla enchiladas and fajitas, and a choice of three kinds of beans—refried, whole, or black.

Customers line up cafeteria-style to order and select their toppings, and then they can either get the food to go, or take a seat alongside a colorful mural painted by manager Roberto Riutort (it covers the entire west wall of the restaurant).

STORETREK

Tott wants ecology-minded residents to know that La Casona has recycling bins for both bottles and cans, and he encourages their use. He also reports that he is working to open the back deck for outdoor dining.

In the meantime, the inside cafe will be open daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

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Your photo prints—whether charming or avant-garde—will receive custom on-the-premises care and processing at the neighborhood's newest photo lab, Rich's Photo, on 24th Street near Castro.

Rich and Amy Luong, who also run a floral shop in the Mission Market Mall near 22nd Street, opened the second branch of their San Jose-based Rich's Photo in June.

They offer one-hour processing of standard color prints, and will develop



Rich and Amy Luong, of Rich's Photo on 24th Street, are used to telling kids like son Charlie to smile for the camera.

black and white film, giving customers a choice of proof sheet or prints, within five working days. (The slides of your trip to Tahiti, however, will be outlabeled to Kodak, with a one-day turnaround.)

In addition, professional photographer Rich Luong invites neighborhood residents to come in and arrange for a studio portrait. But first, take a look at the sam-

ples of his work, sitting in the window of his shop.

Rich's Photo is open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.



Meat Market Coffeehouse co-owner Barbara Cicerelli says the cafe will be opening earlier (7 a.m.), starting this month.

The Meat Market Coffeehouse
4123 24th St.
285-5598

This fall, early birds can wet their whistles with a cheese blintz or waffle at the Meat Market Coffeehouse, starting at 7 a.m. The earlier hours are just one of the changes that new owners Ted Johnson and Barbara Cicerelli, the restaurant's chef and manager for the past three years, have planned.

Besides giving the place a fresh paint job and a new speckled floor, the owners will spiff up the back yard patio, tentatively scheduled to open in mid-September, in time for Indian summer.

According to Cicerelli, the restaurant's basic menu, which is 75 percent vegetarian, has been expanded to include specials like eggplant parmesan, pasta salads, and a chicken salad with roasted walnuts, plus fresh homemade soups.

Cicerelli adds that various beers and wine are available for your enjoyment, and coffee-to-go customers are encouraged to bring in their thermoses, to reduce styrofoam waste.

The Meat Market will continue its popular exhibits of local artists, she notes, and the restaurant can be rented for private parties.

The cafe opens its doors at 7 a.m. Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. on Saturdays, and 10 a.m. on Sundays. Closing time is 7 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 4 p.m. on Sundays. It is closed Mondays.

Boldizar Karate School
1307 Castro St.
826-6123

The Boldizar Karate School, on Castro near 24th Street, offers group and private lessons in a style of karate called "Kenpo," says owner and chief instructor Gloria Boldizar, who holds a fifth-degree black belt and is a master of the form.

Boldizar explains that Kenpo karate is a set of self-defense techniques—featuring kicks, blocks, and "strikes"—geared toward aerobic fitness, stress reduction, and confidence-building. Students engage in light physical contact, but the instructors emphasize safety and the importance of working at one's own pace, with warm-up and cool-down exercises.

Call the school for a complete schedule of classes, which are available to beginners in three age groups: children 4-7, children 8-14, and adults 15 and up.



Gloria Boldizar wears a black belt in Kenpo karate. PHOTOS BY BEVERLY THARP

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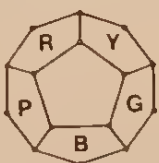
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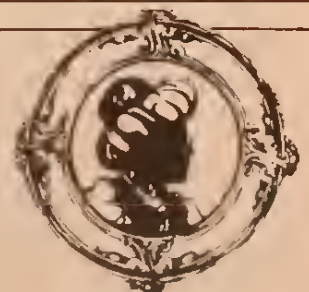
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Paper Boys Find Routes To Success

By Barbara Austen

We may not always notice them. Like the chilly summer fog, we take them for granted. But when the newspaper doesn't land with the expected thud on your doorstep, the first person who comes to mind is the "paper boy."

Who is that person who brings us our Sunday horoscope, or the latest movie schedule at the Castro? Who would get up at such an unforgiving hour on a Sunday morning, when most of us are still dreaming about the adventures we could have had the night before? Are they teenagers getting their first glimpse of the working world, or adults earning a few extra dollars on a second job?

The answer is, both, although some fear that San Francisco newspaper boys and girls are an endangered species as more and more adults take over newspaper routes. According to Supervisor Carole Migden, there has been a trend in recent years to eliminate the use of youth carriers, as evidenced by the fact that only about 800 kids deliver newspapers today, as compared with almost 4,000 10 years ago.

Last spring, however, the Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted a resolution urging the San Francisco Newspaper Agency to continue its practice of hiring young people. And in Noe Valley at least, the tradition of kids as carriers seems to be alive and well.



Raul Armando finds that big hills and bad weather are the most serious challenges along his paper route. PHOTO BY LORENE WARWICK

Paul Romer, who works for the agency as a supervisor of carriers who deliver the *San Francisco Examiner* in Noe Valley, says he is always open to hiring "responsible young adults who can work as independent contractors."

Take 15-year-old Raul Armando, for instance. Raul walks 11 blocks to deliver 100 papers every day on Noe and Elizabeth Streets. And although he doesn't have to trudge through snow drifts and

flash floods like many of his Midwestern or East Coast counterparts, he does face the typical San Francisco challenge: steep hills.

"The hills are the toughest," he says, "and I'm always on foot."

Raul, who's been delivering papers for two years, starts out on his route at 3 p.m. each day, and finishes at around 4:00—that is, if the weather is decent. The ideal newspaper delivery weather,

he declares, is summer, when "there is no wind and no rain. I hate the rain."

With the current drought, most of us rejoice at the sight of a few raindrops, but paper carriers despise those days when they and their papers get soaked, especially soggy Sundays, when papers double in size. And the carriers aren't the only ones lamenting their fate. Parents,

Continued on Page 13

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Read All About The Life of a Local Paper Boy

Continued from Page 12

often the unsung heroes of newspaper delivery, also dread the rain, which means loading up the family car with newsprint.

Carlos Herrera, 13, who gets up at 3 a.m. to deliver 111 papers on two Sanchez Street routes, says that even when it isn't rainy, "Sundays are tougher, but sometimes I deliver with Dad in the car." (Then he can sleep in until 5 a.m.)

Another challenge Noe Valley carriers face is tossing the newspaper so that it lands at the right spot on the doorstep. Victorian houses with long front stairways pose a particular problem, and require a strong, accurate throw. "We want carriers to always deliver the papers exactly where the subscriber wants it," says Romer.

But, as Raul points out, "You can easily break a window." (He's been lucky thus far, though, and has managed to avoid this mishap.)

Carlos adds that subscribers who want their paper in the mailbox can have a problem if they don't pick up the paper before the mail carrier arrives. The mail carrier, he says, will often remove the paper in order to deliver the mail—and frequently the paper gets lost.

Customers complain about late papers as well as lost ones. But if your paper is late, notes Raul, it's probably because the carrier received his papers late. "It's not our fault," he avows, adding that he delivers his papers just as soon as he gets them.

Raul and Carlos both say that they usually only hear from customers with complaints, but occasionally they get rewarded with a tip or a compliment. "I got \$2 today for getting the paper right in front of the door," beamed Carlos.



On weekdays, Carlos Herrera carts the Examiner to all his subscribers on Sanchez Street. But on Sundays, his father occasionally helps with transportation. PHOTO BY LORENE WARWICK

The job of a Noe Valley paper boy entails braving high hills, unpredictable weather, heavy loads, and barking dogs. Is it worth it?

Carlos, who is in the eighth grade at

And Raul, a sophomore at McAtter High School who wants to be an architect, adds that his monetary earnings aren't the only reason he's a paper boy.

"I want to make San Francisco better than it is right now by being an example to other kids rather than doing drugs and things like that."

Examiner carriers like Carlos and Raul earn \$1.50 per paper, and get paid every two weeks. They also can make \$8 for every new subscriber they add to their routes, and can win movie and baseball tickets for participating in special promotions.

Both carriers share an enthusiasm for math as they add up their profits. "Math is easy," says Carlos, who also enjoys social studies in school, because he learns about other cultures.

Is there life after a paper route? Well, Carlos had to give up playing baseball, which required a 4 p.m. practice, but he still finds time to play basketball with his friends. And Raul manages to squeeze in both soccer and basketball.

All in all, it's not such a bad deal. "Kids these days have fewer and fewer job opportunities," says Supervisor Midgen. "Becoming a newspaper boy or girl is one way they can still earn an honest dollar." □

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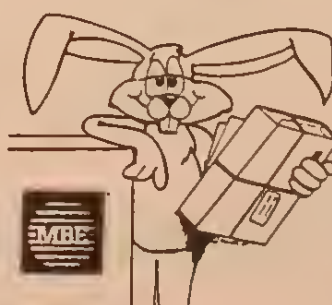
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He Lived to Tell the Tale

Bob Wachter—Man in the Hot Seat at 1990 AIDS Conference

By Kathy Dalle-Molle

Bob Wachter had already decided he wanted to be a doctor when he enrolled as an undergraduate at the University of Pennsylvania in 1975. But unlike most pre-med students, Wachter majored in political science, and his intellectual pursuits led him far from the typical grind of chemistry, physics, and biology.

"I found classes like European history and political philosophy fascinating," he recalls, "but once I went off to medical school, I never thought I'd be using what I learned as an undergraduate on a daily basis. I was sure my interest in politics would be subjugated to off hours, and I didn't know how appropriate this avocation would actually end up being."

Sixteen years later, it's the science that's taken a back seat to the politics.

Wachter, a Noe Valley resident and assistant professor of medicine at U.C. San Francisco, was the official program director for the Sixth International Conference on AIDS, held in San Francisco in June 1990. When he took the job, he was aware that the week-long event would be more than just a biomedical meeting.

"In 1990, it would be untenable to say the AIDS conference was [only] a scientific conference."

But as organizer of the event, Wachter was thrown pell-mell into the battle over U.S. restrictions on international travel by HIV-infected persons—a battle that led to an international boycott of the conference. Wachter fielded calls from the White House and Congress. He was even assigned a bodyguard ("I felt exceedingly self-conscious with a 220-pound shadow. 'Who have you protected?' I innocently asked. 'I could tell you, but then I'd have

to kill you,' was the poker-faced reply. Somehow, I felt better with him around.")

And on the opening day of the conference, which drew 12,000 participants and 1,000 members of the press, hundreds of police in riot gear hid in the basement of Moscone Center, awaiting an eruption of "AIDS terrorism," which had been forecast by leading AIDS activist Larry Kramer.

Caught in the crossfire between patients, activists, and scientists, Wachter realized how complex the politics of AIDS had become, and how important it was to integrate the views of people with AIDS with those of the scientists.

"By incorporating the concerns of patients and activists, the conference became a better biomedical conference than some of the past conferences," he maintains. "To keep the politics out would have meant that the conference was doomed to fail."

During the early planning stages, a colleague from U.C. Berkeley warned Wachter that the 1990 conference could be a clash of extremely volatile groups and ideas. "Take good notes," he advised. "You'll want to write about this when it's over."

Six months into planning the conference, having taken copious notes along the way, Wachter knew his colleague was right. He began contacting publishers.

In late May of this year, St. Martin's Press published Wachter's *The Fragile Coalition: Scientists, Activists and AIDS*. Already in its second printing, the book has won accolades from the medical profession and rave reviews from the media, including *Newsday*, *Philadelphia Magazine*, and the *San Francisco Chronicle*, which compared Wachter's work to Randy Shilts' bestselling AIDS chronicle, *And the Band Played On*. Shilts endorsed the book, calling it a "valuable source material for any student of the ins and outs of this era's AIDS politics for years to come."



This spring, Bob Wachter and wife Amy Markowitz celebrated both the arrival of their first child, Douglas, and the publication of his book *The Fragile Coalition: Scientists, Activists and AIDS*. PHOTO BY PAMELA GERARD

Wachter then launches into a detailed description of his year-long attempt, as conference organizer, to facilitate a collaboration between researchers, who wanted to exchange meaningful scientific information, and ACT-UP'ers (members of the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power), who wanted to dramatize the urgent needs of people with AIDS.

In his foreword, Wachter writes, "How different our approach to the catastrophe of AIDS might have been if politicians always led instead of followed, activists always reasoned instead of rioted, scientists always strived for truth instead of prestige, drug companies always pursued cures instead of profits, and journalists always educated instead of titillated." But, he continues, "I discovered intrigue, power plays, outsized egos, even humor. I sometimes was struck by the baseness of the maneuvering. At times, we might as well have been organizing a conference about speedboats..."

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In his interview with the *Voice* last month, Wachter was quick to point out that even though the book represented his personal recollections, he was no Lone Ranger in mediating between these two forces. During the conference planning, he had the steady help of some 20 individuals, who often put in 70- to 80-hour work weeks. "Sometimes I'd walk

Continued on Page 17

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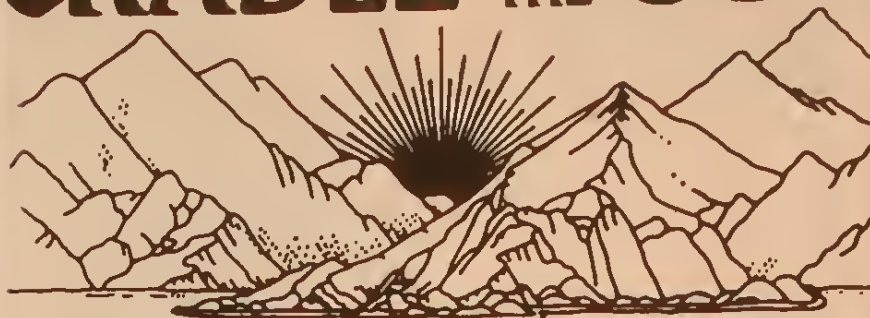
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Organizing an AIDS Conference— Dr. Bob Wachter Wrote the Book

Continued from Page 15

around the office at 9 p.m. on a Saturday, and it would be filled with people," he recalls. "There were 700 volunteers."

The Long Island native (he's now 33) adds that spending his residency at U.C.S.F. was vital to helping him reach the level of AIDS conference planner.

"It would have been impossible for me to start my residency in San Francisco in 1983 and not get involved with the AIDS issue," he explains. "The epidemic unfolded before my eyes, and this hospital and city grasped the situation better than any other place. With my interest in policy and medical ethics, it was a great opportunity to find answers to very important issues. The need was clear; the challenge was obvious. It was only natural that the AIDS issue become at least a part of what I did."

Soon after he was asked to head up the event, Wachter met his wife-to-be, Amy Markowitz, on a blind date. They married in 1989, when conference planning was in full swing.

"She had to live through all of this," says Wachter, "but one of the wonderful things about our relationship is that we work very well together."

For the last eight months of conference

preparation, Wachter's office was located across the street from Markowitz's law chambers. After finishing work at 6 p.m., she'd walk across the street to help her husband edit and write materials for the conference. She also served as his unofficial adviser and press attaché, and helped edit *The Fragile Coalition*.

"She's a wonderful people person," Wachter says. "She has a great sense of how the world works. I couldn't have done the conference without her being there."

Along with the release of the book, the Wachters also had another completed project on their hands this spring—their first child, Douglas, born April 16.

"The baby and the book had about the same gestation period," says Wachter, "and both seem to be doing well, although the book doesn't keep me up at night."

Wachter says he's been able to keep his AIDS-related work in perspective because his job at U.C.S.F.—teaching, researching, and practicing internal medicine—has so much built-in diversity. About 25 percent of his patients have AIDS or HIV-related illnesses, but the remaining 75 percent run the gamut of medical problems.

"It's a privilege to be able to treat a patient and then teach second-year med-

ical students how to listen to a patient's heart and then go back to my office and write an article on health policy," he says.

Outside of U.C.S.F., Wachter and his family, who've been 30th Street residents since July 1989, often spend time strolling along 24th Street and "doing other Noe Valley kinds of things. The neighborhood is just great," he says.

Wachter is an avid squash player and golfer. He also plays the piano, preferring Bruce Springsteen, James Taylor, and show tunes to Mozart and Bach. He says he's currently "driving my wife crazy with the theme from *Les Miserables*."

He also likes to travel, and the walls of his office and home are filled with exotic photographs. "I try to keep my eyes open for the perfect picture," he says. "It motivates you to do anything to get a great picture"—from taking his camera behind waterfalls to feeding a shark to spending 12 hours sitting atop a Volkswagen bus in 110-degree heat, on a trip to Burma. In fact, he once rode an elephant for 10 hours to get a shot of women returning from their work in the fields, in a Northern Thailand town.

Most recently, he and Amy traveled to Florence, Italy, to attend the Seventh International Conference on AIDS, held in June. This year's conference, he notes, was not as well-attended by members of the press. "The progress we've made in the last few years is incremental," he says, "but what brings the press is a [medical or scientific] breakthrough. I think they're beginning to lose interest."

As for next year's conference in Boston, he adds, "It will probably be canceled because of the HIV-travel issue, which is a continual frustration that consumes a tremendous amount of time and energy over a policy that is wrong and ineffective and should go away."

"In the end, the partial success we had [at the Sixth International Conference] might not prove enough." □

Editor's Note: Late last month, Harvard University announced that it would not host the 1992 AIDS conference in Boston as planned, because of U.S. restrictions on foreign visitors. Unfortunately, this means the conference will be moved outside the country.



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Senior Center Is Back on the Lunch Circuit

By Grace D'Anca

Thanks to some last-minute sacrifices on the part of its directors, and an outpouring of support from neighborhood residents, the Noe Valley Senior Center has won its fight to stay open—at least for the coming year.

As reported in the *Voice* last May, the senior center's lunch program—held Monday through Friday afternoon at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St.—was threatened with closure this July, because the San Francisco Commission on Aging (COA) had recommended cutting Noe Valley from its list of city-funded nutrition sites.

"Our seniors came out of their chairs over them trying to close their center," said Julia Johnson, whose position as meal site manager at the Noe Valley Senior Center would have been scrapped if the COA had gone ahead with its plan.

But after senior center members and their neighborhood allies collected nearly 2,000 signatures on a petition protesting the closure and enlisted the aid of Supervisor Roherta Achtenberg, the commission backed down.

In a compromise solution, the COA agreed to continue to have meals delivered to 1021 Sanchez St., as long as the senior center and its umbrella organization, Golden Gate Senior Services, footed the bill for the site manager's salary.

"What COA said was, we'll let you keep the center open as long as COA doesn't have to pay anything," explained Nick Lederer, Golden Gate's executive director.

According to Noe Valley Ministry Pastor Carl Smith, the turning point came when Achtenberg persuaded COA Director Joyce Ream to visit the center in June.

"Her visit made all the difference in the world," Smith said. "She talked to the center members and saw for herself all the support from the merchants and the neighborhood groups." Smith noted that neighborhood activists Miriam Blaustein and Marjorie Stern, along with a number of local merchants led by Harry Aleo of Twin Peaks Properties, had been particularly helpful in launching a campaign to save the program.

In order to ease the burden for the senior center, Smith said, the Ministry had decided to forfeit the \$3,350 annual space use fee normally paid to the church by Golden Gate Senior Services.

Meanwhile, Lederer said he would deduct \$3,500 from his own salary at Golden Gate, and funnel it to California Pacific Medical Center (the COA-designated meal provider), so it can continue to pay for site manager Julia Johnson to work half-time at the Ministry.

For her part, Johnson is volunteering two of the four hours she works at the senior center each weekday. And the seniors are pitching in themselves with set-up and clean-up chores, as well as collecting money to pay for janitorial services two days a week.

But the main thing the seniors are doing is hoping for an increase in attendance—which would help them avoid a similar budget trauma next year. Johnson invites all Noe Valley seniors to come by for a hot lunch and a round of bingo, starting at noon. The cost to participants is \$1.25. □

• MORE GROUPS TO JOIN •

THE WHO, WHAT & WHERE OF NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS

Friends of Noe Valley

Contact: Bill Kuhns
Answering machine number: 285-3532
Mailing Address: 1178 Dolores St.,
San Francisco, CA 94110
Meetings: Second Thursday of month, Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St., 7:30 p.m.

East & West of Castro Street Improvement Club

Contact: Paul Kantus, 647-3753
Mailing Address: Secretary Fred Methner,
327 Jersey St., San Francisco, CA 94114
Meetings: First Wednesday of month, Room 108, James Lick School, 1220 Noe St., 8 p.m.

The Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association

Contact: Harry Aleo, 824-0872
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 146003,
San Francisco, CA 94114
Meetings: Last Wednesday of month, Bank of America, 24th and Castro, 9 a.m.

Upper Noe Neighbors

Contact: Janice Gendreau, 641-5989
Mailing Address: 403 28th St.,
San Francisco, CA 94131
Meetings: Every other month, Upper Noe Recreation Center, Day and Sanchez streets, 7:30 p.m. Call for specifics.

Duncan-Newburg Association

Contact: Evelyn Martin, 826-6734, or Janet Kennedy, 647-1844
Mailing Address: 41 Newburg St.,
San Francisco, CA 94131
Meetings: Irregular

Fair Oaks Neighbors

Contact: Kevin Brickley, 285-4938
Mailing Address: 165 Fair Oaks St.,

San Francisco, CA 94110
Meetings: Twice a year at ICA Auditorium,
24th and Guerrero streets

Dolores Heights Improvement Club

Contact: Bob Killian, 285-7175, or Rick Laubsher, 821-9662
Mailing Address: 3640 22nd St.,
San Francisco, CA 94114
Meetings: Irregular

Liberty-Hill Neighborhood Association

Contact: John Barbey, 695-0990, or Hilda Bernstein, 282-8232
Mailing Address: 3333 21st St.,
San Francisco, CA 94110
Meetings: Every other month.
Call for time and location.

Fairmount Neighborhood Association

Contact: Al Ujeic, 648-3545, or Susan Nutter, 285-8484
Mailing Address: 235 Randall St.,
San Francisco, CA 94131
Meetings: Held periodically at Upper Noe Recreation Center, Day and Sanchez, 7 p.m.

Diamond Heights Community Association

Contact: Robert Dockendorff, 826-3867
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 31529,
San Francisco, CA 94131
Meetings: First Thursday of the month
7:30 p.m. Call for location.

Glen Park Association

Mailing Address: Glen Park Association,
P.O. Box 31292, San Francisco, CA 94131
Meetings: Second Tuesday of month, Glen Park Recreation Center, Elk and Chenery,
7:30 p.m.

P O E M

THIN WALLS

By Jessica Escobar

Within these walls, outside has become
A day of sun a day of light
Morning brings cheer, children
Play in the warm outing in Day Street
A place of fear a place of joy
Four blocks of different kinds of walks
Of life, teenagers come down the path
Some are good some are bad
They stay until the day fades away
No real place to call home except the
Places they find within their friends
A park to come a park to go
Day has made a place for them to go
What shall we do when this beauty runs
Away, no place to head
Hide away within these
thin walls of home
For a better place

Fourteen-year-old Jessica Escobar has lived at 29th and Church streets for eight years. She says she used to hang out at the Day Street park (Upper Noe Recreation Center), but "sunchow I've outgrown it, or it has outgrown me." She's currently juggling up a summer writing program sponsored by Foghorn Press, and will enter the ninth grade at McAttee High School this fall.



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Noe Valley's Prospering Latin Community

Continued from Page 1

Street, separating the neighborhood from the city's largest population of Hispanics.

That border is slowly melting away, however, and more Latinos are choosing Noe Valley as their home. Others come from surrounding areas to shop at local markets, or to attend services at neighborhood churches. And a growing number of Hispanic entrepreneurs have chosen to launch their new businesses in Noe Valley.

For Herrera, the magnet was the Noe Valley Community Store at 1599 Sanchez St. The 15-year-old, collectively-run health food grocery is managed by Herrera and five other people, three of whom are Latin Americans.

"We have more Latino customers now than we used to," said Herrera. "They come in and hear us speaking Spanish, or they hear the Latin music, and it makes them feel comfortable. They tell us that it is a very agreeable atmosphere."

The Community Store has evolved into a center for Latin American activities as well as a produce market. In recent years, its directors have organized poster exhibitions for numerous artists, including Chilean René Castro and a number of Chicanos (Americans of Mexican descent).

Collective directors Jorge Duarte and Roque Ventura have also formed samba dance troupes that participate in San Francisco's annual Carnaval parade. And Herrera is constantly involved in political or educational activities—the kind that bring people to the store to discuss politics as well as buy fruits and vegetables.

Herrera is currently producing a series



St. Paul's deacon Julio Garcia and his wife Ena enjoy the community feeling at the "Club Latino," the church's regular gathering of Spanish-speaking parishioners.

PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

of interviews with economists from his native Mexico, which will be aired in Spanish every Thursday during September at 6 p.m. on radio station KPOO. The interviews were conducted earlier this year in Mexico, and deal with the proposed open-trade policy between Mexico and the United States.

Another Noe Valley magnet for many Bay Area Latin Americans is St. Paul's Catholic Church at Church and Valley streets. Hispanics come from as far away as Concord and Hayward to hear St. Paul's 11 a.m. Sunday mass, which is conducted in Spanish.

Some Spanish-speaking parishioners are longtime Noe Valley residents, who have clustered around St. Paul's cathedral because of the sense of community the church affords, or because they've enrolled their children in the church's parochial school on 29th Street. (St. Paul's offers private instruction from kindergarten through high school.)

Louisa Robaina, of Day Street, has

sent two of her children to St. Paul's and has been an active member of the parish since coming from Cuba to San Francisco 19 years ago.

"We are immigrants, but living near the church has made it much easier for us to adjust and to become involved. We're very content and satisfied with the life we have been able to develop here," said Robaina. "And by living near St. Paul's, it was much easier for us to send our children to school there."

Deacon Julio Garcia has contributed greatly to the feeling of closeness that has developed among the Hispanic parishioners at St. Paul's. In the 10 years since the local archbishop assigned him full-time to the Noe Valley church, he has served as both a liaison between Spanish speakers and the church directors, and a catalyst to bring together Latinos from different countries.

"When I arrived at St. Paul's, I noticed that there were different groups of Hispanics that would sit together in front or

at the back of the church," said Garcia. "One group was Mexican, the others were Central American."

The deacon approached the two groups after the 11 a.m. mass one Sunday, and proposed that they begin meeting to get to know one another over coffee and *pan dulce* (sweet rolls).

"We formed the Club Latino de San Pablo, which has become a center of support and orientation," said Garcia. "The members have really united to help one another. They help each other get jobs, or they even offer food or a roof to stay under when a person is in trouble."

Garcia estimates that there are usually about 500 Hispanics at mass on any given Sunday, and he has seen as many as 1,000 on feast days. They form about a quarter of St. Paul's parishioners, but account for at least 60 percent of the students at the Catholic school.

Father Thomas Seagrave is another reason many Hispanics flock to St. Paul's. According to Garcia, although Seagrave claims he doesn't speak Spanish, he gives the mass in Spanish so well that no one would know he wasn't fluent. Seagrave is also so popular with the children and young adults that many follow him from parish to parish, Garcia said.

For other Latin Americans, the choice to live in Noe Valley was spurred by a desire to live in a safe neighborhood near the Mission District.

"Noe Valley is very tranquil, and has a healthy atmosphere," said realtor Marcial Diaz of Church Street. "Another advantage for us is that we are close to the Mission."

Diaz has five daughters. Eight years ago, he decided that even though he worked in the Mission and many of his friends lived there, Noe Valley would be a safer place to raise his children.

Juana Sofia Abarca echoes his sentiments. She and her husband came from Nicaragua eight years ago, and decided to rent a small apartment on 24th Street

Continued on Page 21

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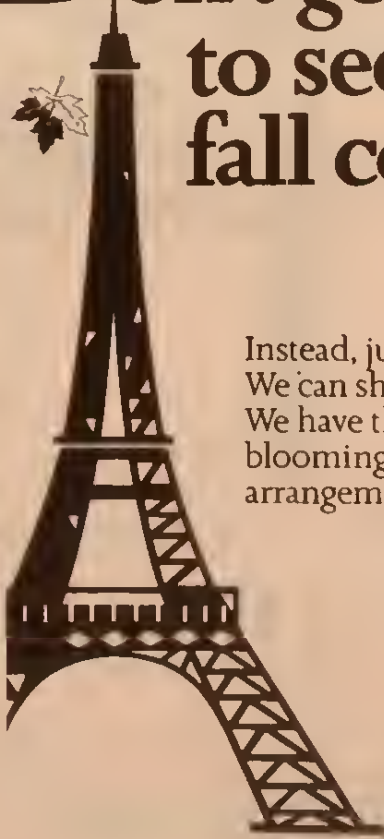
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Hispanics Find Their Niche

Continued from Page 20

near Sanchez rather than live in a larger apartment for the same rent in the Mission.

"We go to the Mission to do our shopping, to eat at restaurants, and to visit friends," she said. "But we feel safer living here."

Abarca said she had noticed a significant increase in crime in the Mission since the 1989 earthquake, and that non-Latinos seemed to be the main perpetrators. "Many of the resident hotels in the Tenderloin were shut down [following the earthquake], and a number of those people are renting rooms or living on the streets in the Mission. They are causing many problems."

Abarca mentioned that she no longer needed to go to the Mission District to do her food shopping. That's because during the past two years, stores in Noe Valley, such as Bell Market on 24th Street, have started to carry the special foods—like *pipian* (a vegetable) and fresh cilantro—she uses to prepare her favorite Nicaraguan dishes.

"I think that in part they are carrying them because more Anglos are cooking in a style that used to be considered Latino," she said.

For some Hispanics, the decision to put down roots in Noe Valley was based on economic opportunity.

Marta Monroy, who is originally from Nicaragua, opened the San Francisco Coffee Company on 24th Street near Sanchez in December of 1987. The first year was slow, she said, but since last year business has been booming.

"We had a very complimentary review in the *San Francisco Examiner* last August, and that also helped quite a bit," said Monroy.

The secret to the coffee store's success, she claims, is to "never be stingy with



Maria Monroy says a friendly welcome and a full cup of coffee are the keys to the popularity of her San Francisco Coffee Company on 24th Street near Sanchez.

PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

coffee" and "offer good service, say hello to everyone." Employees in the shop know exactly how regulars like their coffee, and the clients seem to appreciate it.

At first, Monroy's patrons were mainly white North Americans. "Typically, Latin Americans don't drink such strong coffee as we serve here," she said. But the tastes of Latinos raised here are changing, and Spanish is often heard among customers and between the customers and employees.

Since Monroy's family has done so well on 24th Street, they have decided to expand. Last September, Monroy's two brothers opened their own San Francisco Coffee Company on California Street near Divisadero. That shop is also thriving, so the Monroys are contemplating opening another branch in another neighborhood.

Probably the oldest Hispanic-owned business in Noe Valley is Simon's Spanish Shop at 1305 Castro St. (near 24th).

The Mexican take-out was launched in 1973 by Senen Simón, a Spaniard who was raised in Cuba.

The majority of Simón's customers are not native Spanish speakers, he said, but many wish they were. During the *Voice* interview, a woman walked in and exchanged greetings with Simón and the cashier in English-accented Spanish. She handed both of them gifts of chocolate that had their names written on them.

"She comes in here and practices her Spanish with us," explained Simón with a smile.

Of those clients who are Spanish-speaking, the majority are long-time Noe Valley residents. "They're well-established families," said Simón. "To live in this neighborhood, you have to pay a pretty penny." The families he knows are from Nicaragua, El Salvador, Mexico, and Puerto Rico, and they work in professions ranging from dentistry to garbage collecting.

Another Hispanic business, Bolivian Imports, sits across the street from Simon's Spanish Shop at 1302 Castro St. Enrique Bachinello, who opened the shop in 1986, said the majority of his customers were non-Latinos, but he noted that in a city as diverse as San Francisco, a proprietor gets business from people of every cultural stripe.

Bachinello was among the many people interviewed for this story who pointed out that his customers, and Noe Valley residents in general, have a keen interest in speaking Spanish and in Hispanic culture—a fact that makes it easier for Latinos to live and work here.

That's why, in Abarca's opinion, it is particularly ironic that many Hispanic young people, especially the children of working-class immigrants, refuse to speak Spanish, and try to adapt to the Anglo culture as quickly as possible. "They lose their culture. They are Latinos who don't want to be Latinos," she said.

In the meantime, many Anglo families in Noe Valley send their children to Buena Vista School, where they are "immersed" in Spanish the entire day. And residents frequently wear Guatemalan fabric, and celebrate such traditional Spanish holidays as the Day of the Dead.

This adoption of Latin culture by non-Latinos is something we are bound to see more of in the future, as the number of Hispanic immigrants to the U.S. increases. "The growth we see in Noe Valley in the Latino population, and its influence on this culture, is merely a reflection of the trends that are taking place in California," said Herrera.

Herrera hopes that integration in the city will continue to the point where no other Hispanic will have to hear comments like the one his landlord made to him eight years ago.

"Although we are very proud of our culture, we don't have to be [constantly] labeled as 'Latinos,'" said Herrera. "We want to live integrated in the society, and be as comfortable in one area as in another." □



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J-Church Extended, Sort of

Beginning Saturday, Aug. 31, streetcars on the J-Church line will offer passenger service on the J-Church extension—the newly completed rails that run from Church and 30th streets in Noe Valley out San Jose Avenue to Muni's streetcar barn at Geneva Avenue.

But according to Muni spokesman Alan Siegel, service over the next four months will be extremely limited.

"For right now, the only times people can ride the extension will be when the N and J cars are going in and out of service, or when they are pulling cars to the car barn," Siegel said. That translates to early in the morning (before 7 a.m.) or late at night (after midnight), and a short window in the mid-afternoon (around 3:30 p.m.), he said.

Siegel explained that the reason for the meager service is that the transit system currently has a shortage of LRVs, the orange and white Muni Metro cars which replaced the old "green torpedoes" a decade ago. He noted, however, that Muni would start full service on the J-line extension in January, when a new fleet of cars is expected to be delivered.

In the meantime, Siegel said the extension cars will bear a sign in their windows saying "Balboa Park," or give some other indication that they are going beyond the normal terminus at 30th and Church.

If you happen to catch one, the first three stops after Church Street will be 30th and Dolores, San Jose and Randall, and the Glen Park BART Station (although you'll have to take a pedestrian walkway from San Jose Avenue over the freeway to get to the station). The next stops, all of them along San Jose Avenue, will be at Santa Rosa, Santa Inez, Ocean Avenue, and finally the Balboa Park BART Station.

For a more complete schedule of stops and frequency, call 673-MUNI.

Meet Your Next Mayor

The Friends of Noe Valley, Upper Noe Neighbors, East & West of Castro Street Improvement Club, and Fair Oaks and Glen Park neighborhood associations have come together to sponsor a mayoral candidates' forum, to be held Oct. 17 at James Lick Middle School.

The evening will kick off with a spaghetti dinner at 6 p.m., to be followed by the candidates' forum from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. The first half hour of the forum will feature five-minute presentations by

SHORT TAKES



After decades of watch-dogging the neatness of the neighborhood, Jersey Street resident Fred Methner recently received an award from the San Francisco Clean City Coalition.

Mayor Art Agnos, Supervisor Tom Hsieh, Assessor Richard Hongisto, former Police Chief Frank Jordan, and Supervisor Angela Alioto.

From 8 to 9 p.m., candidates will respond to questions that have been submitted in advance by the sponsoring groups. And during the final half hour, the floor will be open to questions from the public.

Tickets to the spaghetti dinner (\$3; free for children under 6) can be picked up at James Lick, 1220 Noe St., in advance. The dinner, which is sponsored by the Superior Coffee Company, will include a beverage, garlic bread, green salad, meat and vegetarian sauces, and dessert. Proceeds will go toward James Lick School's student awards programs.

Friends of Noe Valley's Mary Ann Malinak (285-1496) and Janice Gendreau of Upper Noe Neighbors (641-5989) are heading up the event, and volunteers are still needed to help with planning, publicity, clean-up, and correspondence.

One Neat Citizen

Jersey Street resident Fred Methner, who's acquired a nickname as the neighborhood's "Mr. Clean," is not your typical retiree. While some of his contemporaries spend their golden years playing leisurely games of pinochle, Methner volunteers his free time painting out graffiti and picking up trash on Noe Valley streets.

In recognition of his decades of community service, the San Francisco Clean City Coalition recently awarded Methner its "One Neat Citizen" Rossi Award. The quarterly award honors individual citizens, merchants, and community groups for their outstanding efforts to keep San Francisco litter-free.

Methner has picked up trash almost every day for more than 20 years. After retiring from his career as a lithographer and government clerk, he began each day with a stroll... and ended up filling several paper sacks with refuse each morning.

"I just thought somebody should pick the paper up," he says. "Besides, I felt proud when I looked at a street that I cleaned."

Now 84, Methner has curtailed his daily trash pickups on doctor's orders, but he's still one of Noe Valley's most active residents, and a leading force in the neighborhood group the East & West of Castro Street Improvement Club.

Methner was one of six Rossi Award winners honored by the San Francisco Clean City Coalition at a luncheon held July 24. The coalition, formed in March 1991, is a privately sponsored organization comprised of neighborhood groups, merchant associations, local government, corporations, and individuals. To make donations or join the clean-up wagon, call 553-2913.

Fall Art Show

Gallery Sanchez, located in the upstairs sanctuary of the Noe Valley Ministry at 1021 Sanchez St., has put out a call for entries in its fall art show, the Autumn Annual.

Continued on Page 25

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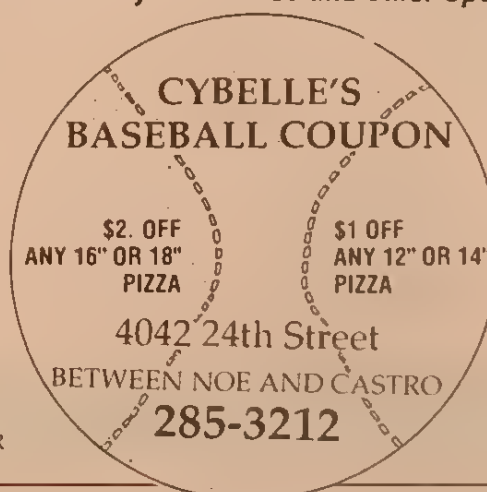
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Continued from Page 23

The show, which will be exhibited Oct. 5 to 25, is open to all Bay Area artists, and work is accepted in any media that hangs on the wall and is wired for hanging. (The size limit is 5 by 5 feet, with a weight limitation of 10 pounds.)

Work must be hand-delivered to the church on Friday, Oct. 4, between 2 and 6 p.m., and must be accompanied by a \$5 per entry (non-refundable) entry fee, with a limit of two entries.

For more information about the show or about the gallery's annual slide screening, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Gallery Sanchez, Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114, or call the church at 282-2317.

War Crimes Tribunal

Former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark and singer/songwriter Kris Kristofferson will be among the luminaries testifying on U.S. war crimes committed in the Persian Gulf, at a Sept. 14 hearing at Mission High School, 18th and Dolores streets.

Testimony at the hearing, which is sponsored by the Commission of Inquiry for the International War Crimes Tribunal (formerly the Emergency Committee to Stop the U.S. War in the Middle East), will take place from 1 to 5:30 p.m., with an evening rally scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

Participants can register for a sliding scale fee of \$5 to \$10 (although no one will be turned away for lack of funds), starting at noon the day of the event.

For more information, call the Commission of Inquiry at 821-6545. The group's headquarters is located at 2489 Mission St., Room 28.

Panhandling Not for Kids

San Francisco's Department of Social Services is asking residents to report any cases they may witness of adults pan-

SHORT TAKES

handling with children, by calling the city's Child Abuse Hotline at 665-0757.

"Panhandling with children is a form of child neglect," said Department General Manager Julia Lopez. "and if the pattern persists, it may well be a form of exploitation. The streets are not an appropriate environment for young children, and we will investigate every complaint thoroughly."

Lopez added that callers should provide as much specific information as possible, including a description of the family, their location, and any signs of child abuse or neglect.

When the department receives a report, she said, social workers are sent to inform the family of public benefits, housing, food, and other resources available to those with children. The parents are also warned that legal action may be taken against them for continually panhandling with their kids.

Cancer Screening for Men

U.C. San Francisco, Mount Zion Med-

ical Center, and the Veterans Affairs Medical Center will offer free prostate cancer screening exams during National Prostate Cancer Awareness Week, starting Sept. 23.

The program is open to men over 40, and includes a blood test and a rectal examination performed by a urologist.

Mount Zion will hold its free screenings on Sept. 23 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., in the hospital's outpatient clinic at 1600 Divisadero St. Two days later, on Sept. 25, U.C. San Francisco will offer additional screenings from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Urology Clinic, 400 Parnassus Ave., Room 610.

The Veterans Affairs Medical Center, located at 4150 Clement St., will offer screenings—to veterans only—on Sept. 16, 23, and 30, from 9 a.m. to noon.

For more information, call 476-8798.

Yay or Nay to One-Way

Approximately 30 23rd Street residents have submitted a petition to the San Francisco Department of Parking and

Traffic, requesting that the existing one-way section of 23rd Street, going east between Church and Chattanooga streets, be extended to the block of 23rd Street between Chattanooga and Dolores.

In order to get as much neighborhood feedback as possible, Transportation Planner Jerry Robbins has scheduled a public hearing on the proposal for Friday, Sept. 13, at 10:30 a.m., in Room 282 at City Hall.

John Stalp, chairman of the Friends of Noe Valley's planning committee, which supports the proposed change, says the current situation—with only one block one-way and the other two-way—has created congestion at 23rd and Chattanooga. "People think they can turn up 23rd [going west, from Dolores] and miss 24th Street, but then they dead-end and have to turn left onto Chattanooga, which is only 30 feet wide and not configured to be a through street," Stalp said.

"It's okay to have a one-way street," he concluded, "but make it between two thoroughfares, Church and Dolores. This will help create a coherent traffic flow for those who want to use 23rd Street to go out of the neighborhood... and make a big difference, in terms of quietness and safety, to the residents of Chattanooga and 23rd streets."

When Stalp discussed the change with his neighbors, one 23rd Street couple expressed concern "that the intersection at 23rd and Dolores, which is so dangerous, would be made worse," he said. The intersection has stop signs on 23rd Street, and flashing stoplights on Dolores, which automatically shut off at dusk.

"They're right," he said. "When 23rd Street goes one-way, 23rd and Dolores needs to be reconfigured, either with stoplights or four-way stop signs." Fortunately, he added, Traffic and Parking already has plans to do just this, whether 23rd Street changes or not.

For more details on the proposal, call Stalp at 824-7234 or Robbins at the Traffic Department at 554-9818.

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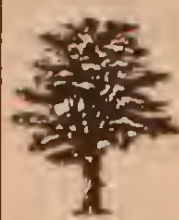
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PRESCHOOL PREPAREDNESS: Four-year-old Erica Duncan, who will attend Children's Day School this fall, was getting her school-supplies shopping done early at Thrifty Jr. last month. PHOTO BY PAMELA GERARD

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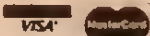
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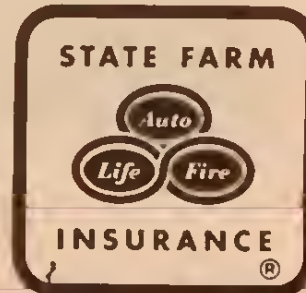
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The Celebration

Although it is already September, my man Leo and I are still aglow in the aftermath of our 50th anniversary celebration. This afterglow is unexpected, because during the year preceding our anniversary, we anticipated the day with fear and loathing, as we envisioned ourselves trying to follow the accepted procedure according to Emily Post—so foreign to our lifestyle. We even considered ways of avoiding the event—like going to Hawaii or getting a divorce—but we really didn't wish to embrace either of these alternatives.

In time, however, a third possibility did present itself.

On the day that I picked up my entry to an upcoming art exhibit at Gallery Sanchez, an agreeable thought occurred to me as I chatted with the gallery's artist-in-residence, Phoebe McAfee. Would it be possible, I asked her, for Leo and me to have a joint exhibit in celebration of our 50th anniversary? She liked the idea, and upon checking the gallery calendar, found three weeks available for our exhibit, plus a day to hold the reception, the July Sunday following our anniversary.

So it was resolved. The cowardly Hawaii escape and the unwanted divorce were averted, and the happy opportunity to show visually what we had been doing for the past 50 years was shaping up. Immediately, Leo and our printer son, Eric, got busy designing and printing a handsome invitation illustrated with reproductions of our work, and it was soon in the mail.

Leo and I matted and framed my drawings and paintings and his photographs, and on June 23, when we hung the show, we were pleased to see how well the gallery accommodated the large exhibition.

On the day of the reception, as we awaited our guests, we couldn't help but wonder how many would come, realizing that this was the last day in the Fourth of July weekend, vacation time for most families. But at 3 p.m., a flow of people came streaming in, and soon the room was filled with a huge, harmonious mix of friends from every period of our life—200 in all!

FLORENCE'S FAMILY ALBUM

Illustrated Reminiscences by Florence Holub

There were relatives, of course, some who came long distances, like our son Jan, who flew in from Alaska. There were Swede-Finns whom I had played and danced with when young. There were Leo's colleagues and former Stanford photography students (one came from Houston for the event). And there were fellow artists, de Young Museum docents, new friends, old friends, Noe Valley folk, lots of children, one Catholic priest (Father Dennis Browne, formerly of St. Paul's), and our own Rev. Carl Smith and his wife Suzanne.

Our old friend Tatsuo Ishimoto, the photographer who took our wedding pictures, was one of the first to arrive. He good-naturedly introduced himself to the ladies by saying, "I'm 50, I'm good looking, and I'm 6 feet tall." Everyone loved him, although he didn't quite match his self-description.

Our affair was not catered; we did it ourselves. Linda Mickelson, my nephew John's wife, helped me prepare enough finger food (bless her) to cover two 10-foot tables, and we also ordered a large "Anniversary" sheet cake to be at one end. A small table to the side was loaded with cookies and punch for the children. Another table Leo stocked with glasses and champagne.



Later, when Rev. Smith mounted the stairs in front of the altar, he spoke a few words, then called on Leo and me. Since my voice was slightly out of order from laryngitis, Leo did most of the talking about the work on display, noting the important phases, and pointing out people in his life who were supportive of his work—most of whom

were in the room. He also divulged a tidbit from our personal life by announcing that I had not kept all of my nuptial vows: I did not always obey. This is true, I am proud to confess.

Since many of the ladies had been eyeing the unusual dress I was wearing that day, I felt the urge to relate its history when my turn came. Fifty years ago, I explained, Leo told everyone that he was marrying me for my dowry, which was hilarious, since my hope chest had only three handwoven Finnish tablecloths that had belonged to my mother. Two of them were eventually used, but the last one was small and of such a beautiful brocade, with a pattern of linked rings, that I could not bear the thought of food being spilled on it. So it remained on the shelf, in pristine condition, wrapped in tissue paper.

A few years ago, however, when I was in a reckless mood one day, I cut it up in pieces and sewed them together. The result is what I wore on my 50th anniversary—a recycled Finnish tablecloth!

We were so engaged in our party that we forgot to appoint a photographer. But we did do the next best thing. On the following Sunday morning, we donned the same clothing, and Leo took a picture of us on our deck (delayed shutter release), squinting into the sun—the picture accompanying this piece. It shows my tablecloth dress, as well as the tacky gold tiara I wore (with cardboard numerals affixed to the center).

The reception, although scheduled to last from 3 to 5, was still going strong at 7 p.m. But soon the Sufi dancers arrived to claim their time slot, and we hastily but reluctantly departed.

We had requested that people bring no gifts, but our son, Eric, gave us a wonderful present anyway—an elegant, handmade guest book which now contains the signatures and comments—complimentary and congratulatory—



from our guests.

A sampling: "Splendid idea! Splendid party!" "Loved the dress!" "Loved the whole scene!" A chef wrote that she was impressed with the quality of the champagne, and the fact that someone had bothered to make tea sandwiches. Christie, a delightful 7-year-old, pronounced, "The wonder yerys are ofer."

But I say not yet, Christie, not yet. As we pore over the pages, we remember all the smiling faces of friends who shared that day with us, our 50th anniversary, which exceeded our fondest expectations.

And we did it our way. □



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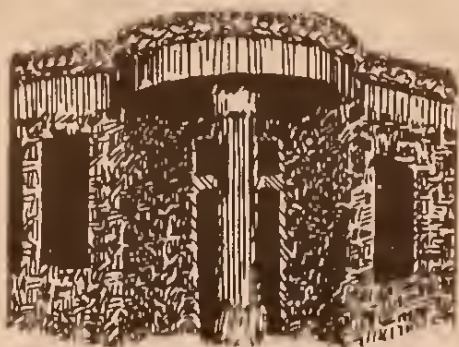
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SAX & AX: Two street musicians who call themselves A Live & Well (Art Live and Joe Well) took advantage of the one sunny day in Noe Valley this summer to perform on 24th Street. PHOTO BY PAMELA GERARD

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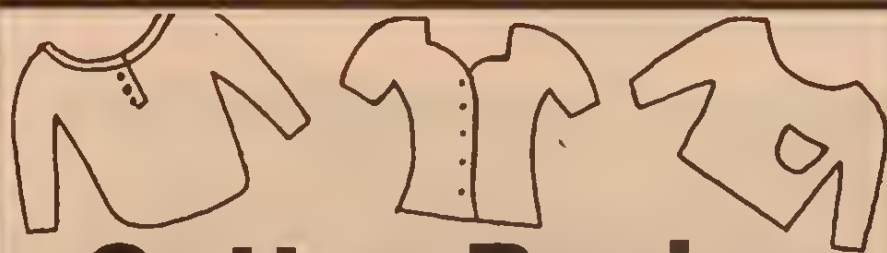
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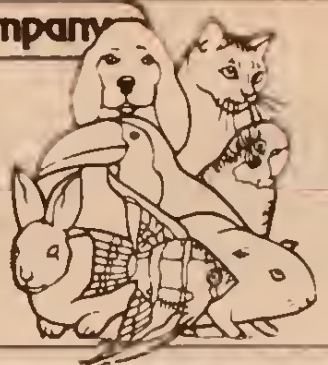
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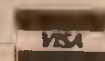
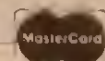
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and now for the RUMORS behind the news

Better Than TV

By Mazook

ON THE SECOND THURSDAY of the month, the Friends of Noe Valley steering committee meets at 7:30 p.m. in the public library on Jersey Street.

This get-together is kind of like a meeting of the town council of Noe Valley, and it's become a lively soapbox for the neighborhood's most vocal residents. All Friends are invited, of course, and the general public is also welcome.

The agenda is written on a slate in chalk. Friends Vice President Bill Kuhns presides, and for the next approximately 90 minutes, something very interesting usually follows. I'm telling you, it's far better than TV (well, maybe not Soviet TV).

As I took my chair on Aug. 8, the slate of agenda items, and the cast of characters assembled, looked particularly exciting. Bill welcomed the 25 or 30 people in the room, an overwhelming majority of whom were members of the East & West of Castro Street Improvement Club, led by club president Paul Kantus (who is a member of both organizations).

Friends Treasurer Barbara Holman reported that the organization had over two grand in the bank. And membership was close to 400, announced longtime member Miriam Blaustein.

Mary Ann Malinak and Janice Gendreau (who runs the show at Upper Noe Neighbors) reported briefly on a mayoral candidates' forum, which five neighborhood groups are sponsoring at James Lick School Oct. 17. (Yes, Art, Tom, Dick, Angela, and Frank will all be there. See this month's "Short Takes" for the complete rundown.)

Then two representatives from the Mission Bay development gave a "short" update on their nascent neighborhood, noting that they were trying to make it look like Noe Valley. (Oh really? Good luck.)

After droning on for 30 minutes, they finally departed. And we were ready for the main event: the next episode of a two-year debate over whether the Courtyard Cafe, which fronts the Noe Valley Mall on 24th Street near Sanchez, should be allowed to host live entertainment on weekend evenings (it needs special permits to do so).

Courtyard owner Davood Mozafari has recently revised his original comedy club concept to something he calls a "Courtyard Cafe Community Showcase," which would offer not only stand-up comedy, but chamber music, poetry readings, and improvisational pieces.

So, fresh from a July endorsement of



CHICKEN SHEET: Because of the new state tax on newspapers, the Noe Valley Voice has been forced to search for new revenue-producing markets around the globe. But fortunately, we've located a chicken-plucker (Mrs. Daphne Hickman of Gloucestershire, England), who is willing to take several issues a month for use as lap protectors. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD.

his "showcase" concept by the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association (and never mind that the members of East & West had voted unanimously against his proposal at their last meeting), Davood stepped up to address the group.

He confidently started to explain that his customers, who number "over 600, most of whom live in the neighborhood, have suggested this service for the community." Unlike two years ago, he continued, "this time I plan to go step by step" to ensure the entertainment license becomes a reality and the neighbors are satisfied.

That was when the fireworks started. The crowd hit Davood with a barrage of questions: "What about the noise levels inside the cafe? What happens when the windows open for ventilation and people spill out into the mall? What about the parking and litter problems this will cause? If you serve beer and wine, won't your intoxicated customers get loud, raucous, and rowdy? Is the Courtyard planning to expand into the space where Underneath It All is now? Where does Davood reside? (Marin.) Well then, why doesn't he put a comedy club in his back yard?" Better yet, why not move the Noe Valley Mall to Mission Bay?

It soon became clear that the meeting was stacked with people staunchly opposed to the project, many of whom were residents living next door to the cafe.

But Davood didn't take his roasting lying down. He responded by accusing not-in-my-back-yard leader Amalia Attruia-Hartwell of being prejudiced against people of Middle-Eastern ancestry. Amalia tried to explain in bottom-line fashion that she would be against Davood's proposal even if his last name were Attruia or Hartwell.

When Davood asked his audience, "How can you be against chamber music?", a woman in the back of the room replied: "I go down to the Opera House or Symphony Hall like everyone else to listen to it."

The Friends who were present at the meeting expressed shock at the enmity of the salvos being hurled at their guest speaker. They also pointed out how this issue split the group two years ago when Davood's comedy club concept first went before the S.F. Planning Commission.

Certainly there must be a compromise, they implored.

Finally a miracle. Jersey Street resident (directly behind the mall) and comedy club foe Lynne Lombardo, attending her first Friends steering committee meeting, spoke up. "If we are really talking about chamber music and poetry readings, then have it on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon, and see how it goes."

Davood seemed skeptical, but said, "I'll have to think about that."

It was just about that time that the old clock on the wall and master of cere-

monies Bill Kuhns begged us all to leave. Meeting adjourned.

☎ ☎ ☎

IT AIN'T OVER YET. I checked back with several of the players in this drama several days later.

Davood Mozafari said he was still proceeding with his application for a conditional use permit from City Planning and a "place of entertainment" license from the Police Department.

Amalia Attruia-Hartwell said she was still unalterably opposed to any entertainment at the Courtyard.

Friends mediator Miriam Blaustein, who was against the evening comedy club idea, said, "If we're talking chamber music and poetry readings on Saturday or Sunday afternoon, then I say great."

But Sally DeHaven, the Police Department's permit officer for Mission Station, expressed doubt: "As far as I know, a majority of the neighbors object, and no one who lives near the site supports having live entertainment."

Do any of you remember the Acme Cafe brouhaha in the early '80s, when Acme owner Joel Coopersmith applied for and obtained permits to serve food on his open back deck, after a bitter battle with Jersey Street neighbors?

Well, the "old Acme" has just become La Casona taqueria, and owner Ed Tott

Continued on Page 34

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RUMORS

Continued from Page 33

(he bought the whole building) says he plans to once again utilize the deck. "I may enclose it in glass," says Ed, "but I have a lot of ideas on what to do there, and I don't want to talk about them now."

Okay, Ed, but don't be surprised if you hear from the neighbors. (The restaurant abuts the Noe Valley Mall, just like the Courtyard Cafe.)

☎ ☎ ☎

THERE'S NOE BUSINESS like show business. Starting the last week of September, Walt Disney Studios will be in the neighborhood for a month or so,

shooting a film in and around St. Paul's cathedral.

According to Disney location manager George Herthel, the movie, called *Sister Act*, will star Whoopi Goldberg, Maggie Smith, and Harvey Keitel. The story's about a Reno lounge singer (Whoopi) who witnesses a gangland slaying. In order to protect their star witness in an upcoming trial, the Reno police ask the archbishop of San Francisco to hide Whoopi out (dressed as a nun, of course) in a convent. Naturally, the convent is situated in a crime-ridden, drug-infested decaying urban neighborhood (Noe Valley's perfect, right?), which Whoopi and her fellow sisters of mercy become instrumental in cleaning up.

Herthel says Disney's crew (half of whom are locals) will be transforming the row of storefronts and houses across from St. Paul's into "ghetto" housing,

and that Father Martin Greenlaw of St. Paul's "is being very helpful" with the project.

Robin Eickman, executive director of the San Francisco Film Commission, which is handling the arrangements, says residents can expect traffic at Church and Valley streets to be delayed on occasion, "but for no more than a couple of minutes at a time." Robin (who lives in Noe Valley, by the way) also notes the movie-making will bump a few Muni stops, but she promises that a shuttle service will be available for the elderly.

The *Voice* will have an "On the Set with Whoopi, Maggie, and Harvey" story in next month's issue, but the staff is still fighting over who gets to write it.

☎ ☎ ☎

LETTERS FROM THE EDITORS: Speaking of staff, when I asked the bosses

(co-publishers Sally Smith and Jack Tiple) what they felt about the new sales tax on free newspapers, I definitely touched a nerve.

"This is just another sorry example of the government beating up on the little guy," said Jack, shaking his head. Sally added with equal exasperation, "What I'd like to know is, instead of taxing newspapers and candy—our only solace these days—why isn't anybody talking about having a truly progressive income tax, not to mention getting rid of Prop. 13? Give me a break."

And pass the Snickers. Bye, kids. ☐

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By Jane Underwood

Christopher Alexander Wieggers

Eva Vanek, 38, and Mark Wieggers, 36, "did the whole post-'60s sequence" after they met, says Mark. That is, they dated for nine months, lived together for three, got engaged, and were married six months later.

"It was a beautiful outdoor wedding in Half Moon Bay," recalls Eva, who fell for her husband, she says, because "he has a very sweet quality, sort of cuddly and affectionate."

Mark was initially attracted to Eva, he remembers, "because of her fun-loving and expressive personality."

They honeymooned in Greece, where Eva promptly became pregnant ("We thought it would be fun to try," she laughs, "but we also thought it would take a little longer than five days!").

Upon their return, the two geologists, who met while working at the same firm, settled into their home on Romain Street in the Upper Market area ("but we come to Noe Valley to do all our shopping").



Working parents Eva Vanek and Mark Wieggers say they can't wait to get home at night to play with baby Christopher, and he looks like the feeling is mutual. PHOTO BY LORENE WARWICK

They harvested the fruit of their honeymoon on Jan. 26, 1991, at 7:06 p.m., when 5 pound, 7 ounce Christopher Alexander Wieggers was born. And although the first three months were "colicky," the last four have been "great," says Eva. "He laughs and smiles all the time now. And he's been sleeping through the night since he was 4 months."

Both parents returned to work when Christopher was 3 months old. But he's in good hands during the day, says Eva, because his grandmother, Elizabeth Vanek, takes care of him. "He's her first grandchild," Eva notes, "and she's thrilled."

Also, she used to work at Timothy Mouse daycare in Noe Valley, so I definitely have the best childcare in the city."

And in the evenings, says Mark, Christopher has two doting parents who "can't wait to get home to play with him."

When play time rolls around, Christopher has some favorite buddies: his rubber duck, a key chain, and a jack-in-the-box. But now that he weighs 20 pounds ("He's a tank!" declares Mom), he's beginning to scoot around in his walker, and is taking more interest in exploring "things that aren't toys," says Dad.

"By the time you turn around, he'll have moved a little farther away than you expected. Next thing we know, he'll be grabbing for the tablecloth. It's time to start baby-proofing."

The "initial panic that new parents go through," says a now-calm Mark, has subsided, and there's nothing he and Eva like more these days than to listen to their son "burst into laughter" when one of them enters his room. "There are lots of screams and screeches" of joy, says Dad. And, adds Eva, "he squeaks."

Mark's advice to prospective parents is "be prepared to spend lots and lots of time with them. And know that it's worth it."

In keeping with these words of wisdom, Christopher's parents are taking him with them on more and more excursions into the world at large. "We took him to a wedding yesterday," Eva relates, "and he was just great. We've taken him to Noe Valley Pizza a couple of times, and Little Italy is my next goal. Come to think of it, Mark and I had our first date at Little Italy." □

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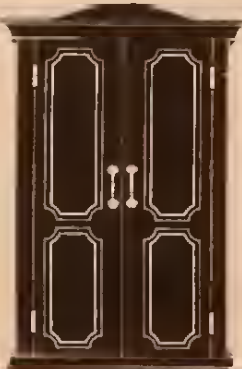
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Here's the Noe Valley Library's fall reading list, courtesy of librarians Roberta Greifer (adult books) and Carol Small (children's literature). The library is located at 451 Jersey St. near Castro, and is open Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 6 p.m.; Wednesdays, 1 to 9 p.m.; and Thursday through Saturday, 1 to 6 p.m. For further reviews, call 695-5095.

Adult Fiction

Beast, the latest by *Jaws* author Peter Benchley, is a high-seas thriller about a couple stranded off the coast of Bermuda. Rumer Godden's *Coromandel Sea Change* is a novel that takes place at a hotel in southern India, where a local politician comes between a honeymooning couple. *Death Qualified*, a "mystery of chaos" by Kate Wilhelm, features a female attorney attempting to solve a bizarre murder. In *Maximum Bob* by Elmore Leonard, a number of people are suspects in the attempted murder of a bigoted judge. Set in London, *Point of Impact* by Jack Curtis depicts a sniper on a killing spree and the detective trying to track him down.

Adult Non-Fiction

In *The Arts and Crafts of Mexico*, a fully illustrated guide to the Mexican people



MORE Books to Read

through their art, author Chloe Sayer covers everything from textiles to jewelry. *Ghost Girl* describes psychologist Torey Hayden's struggle to connect with a withdrawn girl, a possible victim of Satanism.

The Hispanic Way, by Judith Noble and Jaime Lacasa, is an alphabetical guide to the customs of the Spanish-speaking world.

Christina Baldwin's *Life's Companion* delves into the relationship between journal-writing and spirituality.

Paranormal Phenomena, a book in David Bender's *Opposing Viewpoints* series, covers the "pros and cons" of UFOs, astrology, past-life regression, and ESP.

Children's Fiction

Can anyone make baby Louise stop crying?

It looks like only her big brother Daniel can, in *Oonga Boonga* by Frieda Wishinsky. Ages 3-6.

Stargone John by Ellen McKenzie is about an unusual boy who has problems in school, but who learns some valuable lessons from a kindly, blind retired teacher. Ages 9 and up.

In *Journey Home* by Isabelle Holland, Maggie and Annie leave crowded New York City and journey to Kansas, where they are adopted by the Russells and become accustomed to life on the prairie. Ages 9 and up.

Will Encyclopedia Brown, boy detective, be able to solve all the cases brought to him? Find out in *Encyclopedia Brown and the Case of the Disgusting Sneakers* by Donald J. Sobol. Ages 7-10.

Children's Non-Fiction

Winter by Ron Hirschi is a short, simple, beautifully photographed description of a season not seen too often in San Francisco. Ages 3-6.

You will find interesting information about the Chinese language, as well as directions for making many of the characters, in *Lóng Is a Dragon: Chinese Writing for Children* by Peggy Goldstein. Ages 6 and up.

Dorothy Hinshaw Patent provides a fascinating glimpse at the habits of two species of wolves in *Gray Wolf, Red Wolf*, and she also covers the controversy surrounding the treatment of these shy and intelligent animals. Ages 9 and up.

Jose Canseco, Hank Aaron, and many other famous baseball players describe their most exciting experiences in *My Greatest Day in Baseball*, edited by Eliot Cohen. Ages 10 and up.

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USES OF IMAGERY How to use visualization and imagery techniques for relaxation, meditation, enhanced self-esteem and inner healing. Taught by Tom Rucker, M.S., M.F.C.C. Friday, Oct. 11, 7:30 p.m., \$5. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 821-1117.

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ACUPRESSURE AND YOGA. This workshop will enable participants to deepen their awareness of the miracle of the yoga practices by examining them in relation to the acupuncture meridians. Taught by Jnani Chapman, Tuesday, Sept. 10, 7:30 p.m., \$5. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 821-1117.

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STAYING HEALTHY During Difficult Times. This program will illustrate how the various practices of yoga can help us during life crises. Taught by Mary Dale Scheller, M.S.W., author of *Building Partnerships in Hospital Care: Empowering Patients, Families and Professionals*. Friday, Sept. 13, 7:30 p.m., \$5. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., S.F. 821-1117.

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ROCKY MOUNTAIN PARTICIPATION nursery school promotes family enrichment through parent education in a secure, gentle, and stimulating environment. Now accepting applications for preschool children ages 2 1/2 to 5 1/2 years and their parents. Affiliated with S.F. Community College Parent Education Program. Call 552-2929, or 431-4765.

ANXIETY? PHOBIAS? PANIC ATTACKS? Anxiety difficulties take many forms including general high anxiety, phobias, social anxiety, or panic attacks. For some people anxiety restricts their freedom. They are not able to cross bridges, take elevators, fly in planes, or perhaps they can only travel within a restricted area. If anxiety is interfering with the way you would like to live your life, get help from a therapist specializing in anxiety treatment. Call Valerie Hearn, Ph.D., at 824-3701.

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The rate for classified advertising in the *Noe Valley Voice* is 25¢ a word. Just type or print your copy, multiply the number of words by 25¢, enclose a check or money order for the full amount, and mail it to us by the 15th of the month preceding the month of issue.

It also would be a big help if you would indicate whether you are renewing an ad from a previous issue and, if so, include a copy of the published ad with your renewal.

Our address is 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Note: The next issue of the *Voice* will appear Tuesday, Oct. 1. Please mail your ad and check—made payable to the *Noe Valley Voice*—so that we receive it by Sept. 15. Sorry, but we are unable to take phone or drop-in orders.

Also note: We cannot accept payment for insertions in more than six issues. Receipts and tear sheets will be provided only if your order is accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. □

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CALENDAR

AUG. 30–SEPT. 14: The Bedini Theatre Project presents Ed Graczyk's *Come Back to the Five & Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean*. Fri. & Sat., 8 pm. Miz Brown's Restaurant Theatre, 2565 Mission St. 921-2769

AUG. 31: The Noe Valley Movies series promises baby boomers a nostalgic evening of 1950s "kid-vid," including campy B-serials, commercials, and episodes of *Superman*, *The Little Rascals*, *Crusader Rabbit* and *Howdy Doody*. 7:30 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2317

AUG. 31 & SEPT. 7, 14, 21 & 28: The Precita Eyes Mural Arts Center offers a weekly WALKING TOUR of Mission District murals, with an introductory slide talk. 1:30 pm. 348 Precita Ave. 285-2287.

SEPT. 1: In conjunction with its 86th annual convention taking place at New College of California, the Industrial Workers of the World union ("Wobblies") will host a CONCERT featuring Earth First activists Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney, folksingers Utah Phillips and Faith Pefric, the Citizen's Band from Olympia, Wash., and local punk rocker Tommy Strange. 8 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 863-9627

SEPT. 1–OCT. 30: Eileen Blodgett exhibits water media ARTWORK at the Meat Market Coffeehouse. Reception Sept. 16, 6–8 pm. 4123 24th St. 285-5598.

SEPT. 3–4: The U.C. San Francisco mobile MAMMOGRAPHY VAN offers breast cancer screening. 9 am–3 pm. Diamond Heights Blvd. near Sateway. Call 476-2193 for an appointment.

SEPT. 3, 17 & 24: Parents are welcome at the library's preschool STORY TIME, a reading-aloud program for 3- to 5-year-olds. 10 am. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

SEPT. 4, 11, 18 & 25: Enjoy songs, stories, and "fingerplay," with your baby or toddler at the Noe Valley Library's weekly LAPSITS. 7 pm. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

SEPT. 4–OCT. 9: Susie Bright, former editor of *On Our Backs*, leads a six-week course on EROTIC FILM and video, "Porn 101." Wed., 7–9 pm. Good Vibrations, 1210 Valencia St. Call 550-7399 for required pre-registration.

SEPT. 4–30: Noe Valley artist Sam Barbar's PAINTINGS will be exhibited at the Noe Valley Library. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

SEPT. 5–OCT. 4: Abraham Elterman's PAINTINGS and drawings will be on display at Back to the Picture Gallery. 934 Valencia St. 826-2321.

SEPT. 7: International jazz vocalist MARK MURPHY teams up with guitarist BRUCE FORMAN for an evening of innovative music. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.



Gay White and Leigh Evans will perform their "Egg Dance" at Theatre Artaud Sept. 12 and 13. PHOTO BY ANNE HAMERSKY

SEPT. 7: STORYTELLING and oral histories will be shared in conjunction with the "Puerta a Puerta" exhibit of objects of personal or religious significance from residents of the Mission District. 2–4 pm. Galeria de la Raza, 2857 24th St. 826-8009.

SEPT. 7 & 8: Informal small group gatherings of faith-sharing in the St. Paul's community begin the week of Sept. 15; sign-up sheets are available at the church entrance after each mass. 221 Valley St. 648-7538.

SEPT. 8: Calliope Midwile to the Arts presents "CABARET CALLIOPE," an afternoon of theatre music featuring Harriet March Page singing Altan Crossman's "Songs from the Border," the Weill Women performing Weill/Brecht selections, and a back-alley opera titled "Archy and Mehitable," plus an appearance by the Noe Valley Heavy Opera Company. 2 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 252-5885.

SEPT. 10: The Noe Valley Library shows FILMS for preschoolers at 10 and 11 am, and for children 6 and older at 3:30 pm. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

SEPT. 10: Jnani Chapman teaches an acupuncture and yoga WORKSHOP at the Integral Yoga Institute. 7:30 pm. 770 Dolores St. 821-1117.

SEPT. 11: The Noe Valley Library hosts "CHINESE MEDICINE: A Lecture and Demonstration" by certified acupuncturist Robert Hamilton. 7:30 pm. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

SEPT. 12: "Acapulco to Moscow: A Tale of Two Queer Conferences" covers the highlights of the 13th Conference of the International Lesbian and Gay Association and the first LESBIAN/GAY conference in the Soviet Union. 8 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 282-9246.

SEPT. 12–15: Urban ecologists and community activists have organized the first Shasta BIOREGIONAL GATHERING, including panel discussions, workshops, cultural presentations, and craft demonstrations. Enchanted Hills Camp, Napa, Calif. Call 285-6556 for registration information.

SEPT. 12: The monthly Friends of Noe Valley Steering Committee MEETING will delve into policy issues and neighborhood problems. 7:30 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 826-2304.

SEPT. 12 & 13: "The Egg Dance" is a performance piece that explores the sacred aspects of feminine archetypes. 8:30 pm. Theatre Artaud, 450 Florida St. 621-7797.

SEPT. 12–14: The Community Music Center registers new students of all ages in classes in voice, instruments, and MUSIC theory and history. Sept. 12 & 13, 3–7 pm; Sept. 14, 10 am–1 pm. 544 Capp St. 647-6015.

SEPT. 13: The city's Department of Parking and Traffic will hold a PUBLIC HEARING on plans to make the block of 23rd Street from Chattanooga to Dolores one-way going east. 10:30 am. Room 2B2, City Hall. 554-9818.

SEPT. 13: Mary Date Scheller will give a TALK on "Staying Healthy During Difficult Times." 7:30 pm. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 821-1117.

SEPT. 14: The Noe Valley MUSIC SERIES presents Chuck Prophet's *Creatures of Habit*, plus Boone Cootes' *Living Wrecks*. 8:15 pm. 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.

SEPT. 14: The Commission of Inquiry for the International War Crimes Tribunal will hear testimony from former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark and singer Kris Kristofferson at a hearing on U.S. WAR CRIMES committed in the Persian Gulf War. Register at noon for the 1–5:30 pm session; evening rally.

also scheduled for 7:30 pm. Mission High School, 3750 18th St. 821-6545.

SEPT. 14–OCT. 19: Felipe Ariza teaches a workshop in FRESCO PAINTING, the traditional technique of painting on wet plaster. Sat., 10 am–5 pm. Precita Eyes Mural Arts Center, 348 Precita Ave. 285-2287.

SEPT. 15: The FRIENOS of Noe Valley's quarterly general membership meeting will include election of officers, a vote on the Courtyard Cafe's request for an entertainment license, and discussion of crime, traffic, and grant proposals. 1–4 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 826-2304.

SEPT. 15–OCT. 27: Charles Kennard, Voice photo editor and author of *San Francisco Bay Area Landmarks: Reflections of Four Centuries*, will exhibit "Portraits of Contemporary Marin County Artists," a series of PHOTO-GRAPHS taken in artists' studios. Fri.–Mon., noon–5 pm; reception Sept. 15, 2–5 pm. Claudia Chapline Gallery, 3445 Shoreline Highway, Stinson Beach. 868-2308.

SEPT. 16: The Neighborhood EARTHQUAKE Preparedness Coalition gives a lecture on "How to Prepare Your Neighborhood for the Coming Earthquake." 6 pm. S.F. Red Cross Headquarters, 1550 Sutter St. 731-NEPC.

SEPT. 16: The Center for Elderly Suicide Prevention offers a volunteer ORIENTATION CLASS for its Friendship Line, a call-in counseling and crisis intervention service. Call 752-2314.



This self-portrait by Voice photo editor Charles Kennard will join his color portraits of Marin County artists in an exhibit this month in Stinson Beach.

SEPT. 19: This month's MEETING of the Upper Noe Neighbors includes a presentation on Mission Bay development. 7:30 pm. Upper Noe Recreation Center, Day & Sanchez. 641-5989.

SEPT. 20–NOV. 8: Options for Women Over Forty hosts an eight-week WORKSHOP on "Job Search Strategies" for midlife and older women. Fridays, 1–3 pm. The Women's Building, 3543 18th St. 431-6405.

SEPT. 21: Folksinger Judy Fjell joins singer/poet NANCY SCHIMMEL (Malvina Reynolds' daughter) in a tribute to Malvina's music and spirit. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.

SEPT. 21: Britisher Ardella Nathaneal will lead a WORKSHOP in "paneurhythmy," a new meditational exercise-dance technique. 9 am–2 pm. Noe Valley Ministry Studio, 1021 Sanchez St. 584-1931.

SEPT. 22: Bay Area Career Women and the Women's Building sponsor a VOLUNTEER FAIR, with representatives from community organizations and entertainment by Ladies Against Women. Noon–4 pm. 3543 18th St. 495-5393.

SEPT. 22: Michael Rosenthal presents "POST-MODERNISM for Beginners," an attempt to clarify "the murky clusters of meaning that have gathered around the term." 7 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 282-9246.

SEPT. 22: The Noe Valley Ministry invites neighborhood residents to an autumn equinox CELEBRATION, "Cherishing the Earth." 11:15 am. 1021 Sanchez St. 285-7438.

SEPT. 25: In the first of a series of ECOLOGY TALKS, Elizabeth Vanek discusses her two walks across the U.S. for the environment. 7:30 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 664-8908.

SEPT. 27: Peter Perusha, author of *Alive and Well—A Path for Living with AIDS*, leads a WORKSHOP at the Integral Yoga Institute. 7:30 pm. 770 Dolores St. 821-1117.

SEPT. 28: Natural Resources sponsors a class, "Introduction to INFANT MASSAGE for Oads," led by Larry Miller. 10–11:30 am. 4081 24th St. 550-2611.

SEPT. 28: AYMURA plays the haunting music of the Andes, based on Spanish and South American Indian cultures. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.

SEPT. 28 & 29: Come have fun at St. Philip's annual FESTIVAL and raffle to benefit the church's school; games, food, music and entertainment booths will be featured. 10 am–6 pm. 725 Diamond St. 282-0141.

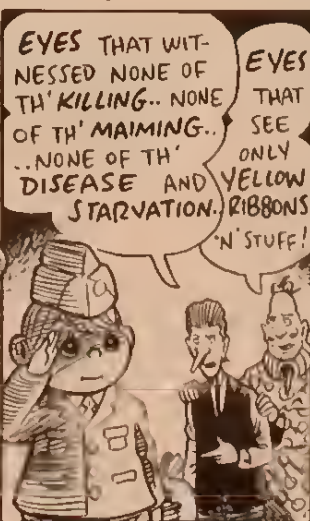
SEPT. 29: Rabbi Pamela Frydman-Baugh will conduct a Jewish/Christian worship SERVICE at the Noe Valley Ministry. 11:15 am. 1021 Sanchez St. 285-7438.

SEPT. 29: Natural Resources sponsors "Fertile Ground," an art, writing, and movement WORKSHOP on women's reproductive systems led by Lynne Uretsky. 1–5 pm. 4081 24th St. 550-2611.

ZIPPY



"KITSCH KILLERS"



The Scoop on CALENDAR

Please send calendar items before the 15th day of the month preceding the month of issue to the *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Items are published on a space-available basis, with Noe Valley neighborhood events receiving priority. Note: The October 1991 issue of the *Voice* will hit the streets Tuesday, Oct. 1. The deadline for October calendar items is Sept. 15.